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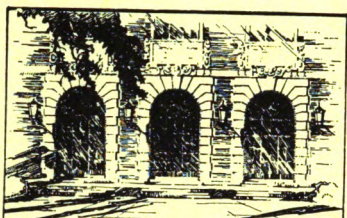
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COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

Barbados

1947



LONDON: HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

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THE SERIES OF COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS
which was re-introduced for the year 1946 (after
suspension in 1940) is being continued with those
relating to 1947.

It is anticipated that the Colonies and Protectorates
for which 1947 Reports are being published will, with
some additions, be the same as for the previous year
(see list on cover page 3).

ANNUAL REPORT ON BARBADOS FOR THE YEAR

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LONDON: HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
1948

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The cover illustration shows the Bathsheba Shore.

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PART I

Review of 1939-47

BARBADOS' contribution to the national effort during the war was noteworthy. Out of a population of 192,000, 2,001 men and 85 women were mobilised, of whom 1,179 men and 85 women served outside the Colony; 34 men were killed. Many Barbadian workers were employed by the American War Food Administration and War Manpower Commission.*

Barbados was outstandingly successful during the war in increasing its food requirements. The Home Grown Food Committee succeeded in placing 35 per cent. of the arable land under food cultivation as compared with 5 per cent. before the war.

On 11th September, 1942, the Island was attacked by a German submarine. Two merchant vessels, the British s.s. *Cornwallis* and the Norwegian m.v. *Betancuria* were attacked lying at anchor in Carlisle Bay under the protection of the net defence. The attack began at approximately 4.45 p.m., the first intimation being an explosion in the net. Three more torpedoes exploded in the net at intervals, but at 6.05 p.m. the s.s. *Cornwallis* was hit by a torpedo on her starboard side abreast of No. 3 hatch. No further attack developed. The *Cornwallis* remained afloat, temporary repairs were effected and the vessel, in due course, was able to proceed to a repair port where she was rendered fit for further service.

The Ministry of Food bulk purchasing of sugar has affected no West Indian colony more than Barbados, because, like Antigua and St. Kitts, Barbados is entirely supported by sugar. It has practically no other crop or source of revenue. The fact, therefore, that the Ministry of Food is now (1948) paying £27 5s. per ton for sugar compared with the market price of £9 in 1939 has naturally a bracing effect on the Colony's finances.

In the bulk purchasing price per ton for 1947 crop sugar, £2 15s. was allocated to certain special funds. After deducting an amount of 10d. for charges, excluding brokerage, the balance of the £2 15s. was allocated to the three special funds as follows:

	£	s.	d.
The Capital Rehabilitation Reserve Fund .	0	19	9 per ton
The Price Stabilisation Reserve Fund .	1	4	7 „
The Labour Welfare Fund .	0	9	10 „

The purpose of the capital rehabilitation reserve fund is to provide money to meet in part the cost of major renewals, and improve-

* See Part II, Chapter II, Occupations, Wages and Labour Organisation.

ments of factory machinery and equipment. The purpose of the price stabilisation reserve fund is to provide a reserve which can be utilised, if necessary, to mitigate the adverse effect of a reduction in the price of sugar. It is not proposed to draw upon this fund in the immediate future and certainly not as long as the present Ministry of Food guaranteed purchase agreements remain in force. The purpose of the labour welfare fund is to provide funds to meet the cost of capital works for the improvement of the welfare of labourers engaged in the sugar industry.

The balances to the credit of these funds at 31st December, 1947 were :

	£	s.	d.
Capital Rehabilitation Reserve Fund	110,064	9	7
Price Stabilisation Reserve Fund	137,141	18	7
Labour Welfare Fund	54,882	13	2

No disbursements have so far been made from any of them.

The report of the West India Royal Commission, 1938-39, was presented in December 1939. A summary of its recommendations was published in February 1940 (Cmd. 6174) but the full report was not published until July 1945 (Cmd. 6607). Concurrently appeared a statement of action taken on the recommendations (Cmd. 6656), with which this section of this report should be read. As a result of the recommendations of the Royal Commission the Comptroller for Development and Welfare was appointed in 1940 with headquarters at Barbados.

The Colonial Development and Welfare Act, 1940, which provided for an expenditure of £50,000,000 from United Kingdom Government funds on development and welfare schemes in the Colonial Empire, was followed by the Colonial Development and Welfare Act of 1945, which extended the period covered by the earlier Act from 1951 to 1956, and increased the amount available to £120,000,000. From this total Barbados has been allocated £800,000 for expenditure in the ten-year period 1946-56.

Among the Development and Welfare projects which have most greatly benefited Barbados are the following :

(1) *Maternity Hospital.* The site for a Maternity Hospital was purchased at a cost of £4,500 and a further £4,578 was allocated from Colonial Development and Welfare funds for the conversion of the building, which had previously been a large private house, and equipment. It was completed during 1947 and will now be taken over by the Barbados Government and administered as part of the Health Services.

(2) *Six Agricultural Stations* have been financed from Development and Welfare funds and established by the Department of Agriculture to demonstrate better agricultural methods to peasants. They also provide for stud stock of good strain for improving the livestock in the Island which are greatly appreciated.

(3) *The Nutrition Centre.* Many children in Barbados are underfed. A Nutrition Officer has been attached to the Department of Education and much has already been accomplished to see that children are better fed.

The Comptroller for Development and Welfare is the British Co-Chairman of the Caribbean Commission—an official international advisory body on which are represented the United Kingdom, the United States,

France and the Netherlands. The Caribbean Commission operates throughout the Caribbean area ; and the fact that Barbados has been chosen as the administrative centre of the British headquarters of the Commission, as well as the location of the Comptroller's organisation, has naturally enhanced the importance of Barbados itself.

In Education the war brought progress.* Barbados has a long tradition of classical education, and Codrington College, founded in 1710, was affiliated to Durham University in 1875. The leading boys' public schools are the Lodge, founded in 1721, and Harrison College, founded in 1733 ; the leading girls' public school is Queen's College which was founded in 1881. The new West Indian University, which is to be established in Jamaica, has a Barbadian as its first Registrar.

The Public Library celebrated its centenary in October 1947 (see Part II, Chapter VII).

In February 1947 Sir Hilary Blood, K.C.M.G., LL.D., became Governor in succession to Sir Grattan Bushe, K.C.M.G., C.B.

Constitutionally, Barbados was able to make a considerable advance during the period under review. In the year 1944 the Representation of the People Act was amended and the franchise lowered. As a result, a House of Assembly was returned for the first time with a predominantly trade union complexion (see Part III, Chapter III). The labour forces in the House were not and still are not united. Nevertheless the Progressive League enjoys a plurality, and its founder, Mr. G. H. Adams, is now Leader of the House.

Since 1946, the Governor invites the person best able to command a majority in the House of Assembly to submit the names of four members of his party to be members of the Executive Committee. The object of this new development is to enable the Executive Committee to become an effective organ of Government, accepting collective responsibility for policy.

The present administration has witnessed the inauguration of a series of long overdue reforms relating to finance, public health, housing and conditions of life for the poorer classes. The legislature has sanctioned the new post of Financial Secretary.

* See Part II, Chapter III, Public Finance and Taxation. See also Part II, Chapter VII.

PART II

Chapter 1 : Population

THE total population of Barbados, according to the West Indian Census counted on 9th April, 1946, was 192,841, of which 85,845 were males and 106,996 were females. The previous count was made in 1931 when the population was given as 156,312 with 62,978 males and 93,334 females, which shows an increase of 36,529 during the fifteen years between the counts.

This population was distributed among Bridgetown and the parishes as follows :

Bridgetown	13,345
St. Michael (excluding Bridgetown)	63,091
Christ Church	24,964
St. George	14,414
St. Philip	14,877
St. John	10,106
St. James	11,300
St. Joseph	7,712
St. Thomas	8,500
St. Andrew	7,582
St. Peter	9,131
St. Lucy	7,819
	192,841

The population has continued to increase since the count in April 1946 and the figure on 31st December, 1947, is calculated to be 199,012, an increase of 6,171 over the census figures.

This figure is calculated as follows :

Population calculated at 31st December, 1946	195,348
Natural increase—births (6,425) exceeding deaths (3,204) for the year 1947	3,221
Immigration (15,217) exceeding Emigration (14,774) for the year 1947	443
Total	199,012

It will be seen that the rate of increase in the population has accelerated recently, since the period 1921-45 gives an increase of 2,435 a year, whereas in the period for 1946-47 the rate of increase is approximately 3,600 a year.

The density of population is calculated at 1,198 persons to the square mile throughout the Island.

Marriages

There were 1,055 marriages performed during 1947, a decrease of 326 on the figure for 1946. These figures include marriages performed by Civil Magistrates and twenty of the religious denominations.

The marriage rate per 1,000 of the population was 10·60, a decrease of 3·55 on the 1946 figure.

Births and Deaths

The number of births has increased steadily during the past few years and there has been a slow decline in the illegitimacy rate. The number of deaths, including deaths under five years, have remained about the same. During the year only seven deaths were not certified.

The following are the figures for the last five years :

Year	BIRTHS			DEATHS		
	No.	Rate per 1,000	% of Illegiti- mate	No.	Rate per 1,000	% of deaths under Five Years
1943	5,877	29·01	57·20	3,104	15·33	40·27
1944	5,928	29·10	56·91	3,341	16·41	41·21
1945	6,047	28·47	54·55	3,164	14·89	34·38
1946	6,175	31·60	53·74	3,289	16·83	37·00
1947	6,425	32·28	52·60*	3,204	16·09	39·86

* Estimated.

Infant Mortality

Out of the total number of deaths in 1947 (1,459 males and 1,745 females), 1,050, made up of 565 males and 485 females, were under one year of age.

The infant mortality rates of children under one year per 1,000 live births for the past five years are as follows :

1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
164	186	150	157	163

The chief causes of infant mortality were Diarrhoea, Enteritis and Congenital Debility.

Immigration and Emigration

In 1947 immigration exceeded emigration by 443, which was partly due to the return of workers from the United States of America and demobilised personnel from the Armed Forces and other war-time occupations. There was no compensating emigration of workers to the United States during the year as had been expected.

Chapter 2 : Occupations, Wages and Labour Organisation

Agricultural work continues to be the chief occupation of the people of the Island, approximately 30,000 persons (men, women and young persons) being engaged in this kind of work. Two-thirds of this number were employed on estates in the cultivation and reaping of sugar cane. The harvest was reaped between the months of January and May, and during this time the canes were transported to twenty-five factories in which they were manufactured into sugar, and to twenty others where syrup was produced. Two thousand workers (chiefly men) were employed in these factories. Transportation and shipment of sugar and sugar products also afforded work for about 1,500 persons. In the four rum (a by-product) distilleries there were 126 workers ; and the employment of a considerable number of clerks in shipping and commercial establishments continued to depend on the sugar industry. There were over 300 coopers employed in making puncheons and barrels in which rum and syrup were exported.

A number of the workpeople have smallholdings of their own, nearly 1,000 of the 3,000 peasants occupying holdings of from 1 to 10 acres being also employed on sugar estates. There were, in all, over 30,000 peasant plots of under 10 acres, on more than one-third of which sugar cane was planted. Of the Island's total sugar cane production of 989,000 tons, 122,000 tons were canes grown by peasants on their own land.

In Bridgetown, two foundries employed about 300 workmen ; and there were also in operation electric, gas and telephone undertakings employing between them more than 300 workmen. In the Government-owned waterworks, another 300 were employed. Other small factories were in operation, including those manufacturing aerated drinks, cigarettes, biscuits, soap, ice and cotton. The number of domestic servants in the Island including hotel workers has been estimated at 15,000 ; and there were over 2,000 fishermen engaged on their own account.

It is estimated that there were in the Island at least 5,000 able-bodied unskilled men in excess of the requirements of existing industry.

- In 1944, following the example of Jamaica, British Honduras and the Bahamas and with the help of the Anglo-American Caribbean Commission, arrangements were made with the American War Food Administration and War Manpower Commission for the recruitment of Barbadian labourers for employment on agricultural and industrial work in the U.S.A. 3,605 labourers went to the United States of America in 1944 ; at the end of the year 1,578 renewed their contracts, the remainder returning home. In addition to the 1,578 remaining in the United States at the end of 1944 a further 4,384 proceeded for employment in some sixty concerns under the auspices of the War Manpower Commission. As a result of the termination of the war in the Pacific, 5,222 workers had been repatriated by the end of 1945. During 1946 a total of 3,086 workers were employed with the United States Sugar Corporation in Florida having been recruited by a special representative of the United States Department

of Agriculture. By the end of the year the majority of these workers had returned. At the end of 1947 there were 188 Barbadians working in Florida.

By an agreement made between the War Food Administration and the War Manpower Commission on the one hand and the workers on the other, weekly deductions of 25 per cent. were made from the wages of the workers and placed to their credit locally. This business required the establishment in Barbados of a subsidiary branch of the Labour Department, financed entirely by Government funds. The amounts remitted through the Savings Branch of the Labour Department were as follows (exclusive of large sums remitted through the Post Office) :

<i>Year</i>						<i>Amount remitted through Savings Department</i>
						£
1944	.	.	.	.	.	92,917
1945	.	.	.	.	.	333,763
1946	.	.	.	.	.	119,249
1947	.	.	.	.	.	43,052
Total						<u>£588,981</u>

In 1947 only 516 men were recruited for work abroad : 278 went to Aruba and 169 to Curaçao for work in the oil industry, and 60 went to His Majesty's Naval Dockyard in Bermuda.

Wage rates have risen considerably since 1939. The rise has been steepest in the case of agricultural workers whose standard daily wage rates before the war were : men 1s. 6d. women 1s. At that time there were workers who drew even lower rates of wages, but the cane cutters and other " task " workers earned on an average 3s. 3d. per day.

During the harvesting of the 1947 crop the average earnings of cane cutters per day were approximately 10s. 2½d. Each cane cutter works with a partner (a woman) who collects the cane and loads it on the lorries, and for this work she receives the same pay as the cane cutter. For cultivation work, men were paid 7½d. per hour, and women 5½d. per hour. These rates were 20 per cent. higher than those in 1946.

In the sugar factories the wages during the crop continued to be based on the tonnage of sugar or syrup produced. The rates per ton varied considerably according to occupation and from factory to factory. Workers employed in sugar factories on maintenance at other times of the year were paid at rates ranging from 7d. to 1s. 2d. an hour. All rates of sugar factory workers were 15 per cent. higher than those paid in 1946.

The wages of stevedores have risen from 8s. 4d. per day in 1939 to 15s. per day in 1947. The rate of wages in 1947 was a consolidation of the cost of living and travelling allowances with the 1946 rate plus 15 per cent. Other port workers obtained similar increases in wages.

The wages in foundries were : improvers, 5d. and 6d. per hour, journeymen 8d. to 1s. 5d. per hour : in addition a cost of living allowance

was paid. Shop assistants received a 50 per cent. increase : their wages ranged from £4 3s. 4d. to £20 16s. 8d. per month. In the building trade, masons, carpenters, painters and plumbers were paid £2 10s. per week and labourers £1 8s. per week. The wages of domestic servants ranged from 8s. to 10s. a week for a housemaid, and from 12s. to 17s. a week for a butler ; chauffeurs were paid from £1 to £1 8s. per week.

A temporary cost of living allowance was paid to Government servants other than members of the police force and members of the unestablished staff whose salaries had recently been consolidated. The rates of allowance were as follows :

40 per cent. on the first	£100 or part thereof		
30 " "	second	£100	" "
25 " "	third	£100	" "
20 " "	fourth	£100	" "
15 " "	fifth	£100	" "
10 " "	sixth	£100	" "

Government pensioners received the following allowances :

On the first	£100 of pension or part thereof	50 per cent.
" second	£100 " " "	40 "

Working hours are fixed by statute only for shop assistants, whose weekly hours may not exceed 42 ; but an eight-hour day and a 48- or 45-hour week is laid down in certain agreements arrived at by collective bargaining and is widely observed in industry and commerce. In the towns overtime is worked by port workers, foundry employees and bakers and their assistants.

In most sugar factories during the crop season, a 72-hour week, in 12-hour shifts, was generally worked, but there were factories in which the two shifts alternated every eight hours. For agricultural workers there were no fixed hours of work and the hours varied considerably. The normal working hours of domestic servants ranged from 9 to 11 a day, seven days a week, with one or two days (usually Sunday) off during the month. There was no noteworthy change in the hours of work in any occupation.

A table showing the rise in the cost of living since September 1939 is given below :

BASIS, JANUARY-AUGUST 1939=100

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1939 .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	100	110	111	111
1940 .	114	112	113	118	122	121	122	122	122	123	122	123
1941 .	124	124	125	128	129	130	130	131	134	136	136	137
1942 .	137	140	142	145	149	152	153	156	161	164	158	158
1943 .	156	164	162	162	163	166	166	166	170	168	168	168
1944 .	168	169	168	175	175	176	182	186	189	185	186	185
1945 .	185	183	183	186	186	186	187	187	191	189	190	194
1946 .	196	196	196	197	200	200	214	212	215	215	220	222
1947 .	228	224	228	228	225	225	223	223	224	226	226	226

It will be seen that, in contrast with other years since 1939, the cost of living figure remained comparatively steady throughout the year 1947. The prices of certain foodstuffs in December 1947 were as follows :

	s.	d.	
Salted Beef	1	9	per lb.
Salted Pork—Heads	0	9	„
Fresh Meat—Stew Beef	1	6	„
Fish—Salted	0	9	„
Fish—Fresh	1	3	„
Flour	0	3½	„
Cornmeal	0	5	„
Sugar	0	3	„
Milk—Fresh	0	5½	per pint
Milk—Condensed	1	0	per tin
Butter	3	4	per lb.
Margarine	2	4	„
Edible Oil	0	11½	per pint
Rice	0	3	„
Salt	0	1	per lb.

The cost of living for officials from overseas was very high. Furnished and unfurnished houses in residential districts were difficult to obtain. Rents were in the neighbourhood of £125 to £250. Including meals, the cost of plain accommodation at boarding houses and hotels ranged from 12s. 6d. to 25s. a day. (This is reasonable when compared with the cost of maintaining a private establishment.) Board and lodging is sometimes obtainable at about £20 a month, but in addition to this there may be other charges to be taken into consideration, such as :

Laundry at so much per piece, probably £2 a month ;

Transport, say, £5 a month ;

Mid-day meals, if taken in town, say £3 (*i.e.* 3s. a day).

These make a total of about £30 to £35 a month exclusive of the cost of ordinary social obligations and requirements. This sum might then be regarded as the basic living expenditure of a single officer appointed from abroad to the service of the Colony. A married officer maintaining a house of his own will, for a variety of reasons, find housekeeping very expensive.

The Labour Department came into existence in 1940. It consists of a Labour Commissioner, a senior clerk, a labour inspector, three long-grade clerks (one of whom has charge of an employment agency run by the department), a stenographer-typist and two messengers. There is also a temporary savings bank branch of the department, which controls money of Barbadian workers in the United States ; and six temporary inspectors were employed, under the supervision of the department, to check the weighing of canes at factories during the reaping of the crop. The chief work of the department was conciliation between workpeople, mostly organised in trade unions, and employers. Some negotiations were

undertaken direct between employers and workpeople, but the majority of employers and workpeople continued to go to the Department of Labour to settle their claims and differences.

Agricultural workers were not well organised, but representations were made on their behalf by unions, and major questions of wages were settled between the Sugar Producers' Federation and the unions.

There were no stoppages of work of a serious nature on sugar estates. Such stoppages as occurred lasted from a couple of hours to a few days. The increases in rates of wages contributed in a large measure to the relative contentment which existed among the workpeople in this industry.

There was a strike of 120 hotel employees which lasted for twenty-one days. No final settlement having been reached regarding the wage rates and working conditions of these workers, some of them were re-engaged and others dismissed. An unauthorised stoppage of work by stevedores which lasted for only one day also occurred. From the middle of the year onward there was a considerable amount of unrest among port workers in general and an unusual number of conciliation board meetings were held. Negotiations drifted on in an atmosphere pervaded by lack of goodwill and the absence of a spirit of compromise. Late in November the Shipping and Mercantile Association, acting on behalf of the employers, intimated their intention to terminate their agreements with the Barbados Workers' Union in respect of the wages and working conditions of stevedores, lightermen and steamer warehouse porters at the end of the year. At the same time the employers stated the terms and conditions on which they would in future be prepared to employ these workers.

The largest trade union in the Colony is well organised and had a total of over 5,000 members working in twenty-two divisions. Considerable work was done by this union particularly in the negotiation with employers' associations and employees (usually under the chairmanship of the Labour Commissioner) of agreements governing wages and working conditions of various categories of labour. There is another trade union representing clerks and shop assistants with 1,000 members, and there is a union which works chiefly on behalf of agricultural labourers and has between 50 and 250 members. The principal commercial undertakings in Bridgetown are organised in an employers' association and the managements of sugar estates and factories are represented by another employers' association. These workers' and employers' associations are all young. They continued to rely to a great extent on the advice and assistance of the Labour Department.

An Act to make provision for the registration and supervision of factories and for the safety and well-being of persons employed therein was passed by the legislature in September. The Act has not yet been proclaimed. It is to be administered by a Factory Board consisting of the Chief Medical Officer, the Colonial Engineer, the Labour Commissioner, the Government Electrical Inspector and not more than two other persons to be appointed by the Governor. Under the Act there is also to be a Factory Appeal Board, consisting of five persons to be appointed by the Governor for the purpose of hearing and determining appeals from the decision of the Factory Board.

Legislation exists regarding trade unions, the employment of women and children, wage-fixing machinery, the establishment of machinery for conciliation and arbitration, workmen's compensation (including agriculture) and non-contributory old-age pensions.

Of the £4 15s. per ton increase in the Ministry of Food's price for sugar, £2 14s. 2d. per ton of sugar and £2 15s. per 330 wine gallons of molasses were set aside by an Act passed in June as funds for the benefit of the sugar industry. The Act created a capital rehabilitation reserve fund, a price stabilization reserve fund and a labour welfare fund, and provided for their administration (see Part I, pp. 3-4).

Chapter 3 : Public Finance and Taxation

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE

The revenue of the Colony during the financial year 1947-48 * amounted to £1,942,778, an increase of £290,686 over the figure of £1,652,092 for 1946-47.

The principal heads showing an increase are : Customs (£209,806), Post Office (£8,745), Interest (£2,861), Special Receipts (£7,298), Waterworks (£2,509) and Income Tax and Death Duties (£61,222) ; the only large decrease was under Reimbursements-in-aid (£24,320).

Expenditure for 1947-48 amounted to £1,774,535 compared with £1,256,462 in 1946-47, an increase of £518,073. The main differences are set out as follows :

<i>Head</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>Compared with</i>
	<i>£</i>	<i>1946-47</i>
Customs	24,236	<i>£</i> 3,512
Post Office	51,391	an increase of 7,754
Police	123,208	" " 9,523
Currency	650	a decrease of 9,166
Education	215,532	an increase of 18,182
Agriculture	32,303	" " 3,303
Medical	158,803	" " 33,400
Public Works	27,900	" " 7,017
Pensions	48,616	" " 4,108
Subsidies and Grants	43,900	" " 18,660
Miscellaneous Services	569,416	" " 347,147
Income Tax	39,570	a decrease of 4,100
Highways and Transport	129,489	an increase of 68,149
Peasants' Loan Bank	5,985	" " 5,250

Under the head " Miscellaneous Services " is included all expenditure on money resolutions passed by the Legislature. Payments were made on an enlarged programme of capital works which do not appear in the Estimates of Expenditure.

* The Financial Year ends on 31st March.

It is interesting to compare the revenue and expenditure for 1946-47 and 1947-48 with that of 1938-39 and 1939-40, as follows :

		<i>Revenue</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>
		£	£
1938-39	. .	528,278	546,274
1939-40	. .	559,484	560,038
1946-47	. .	1,652,092	1,256,462
1947-48	. .	1,942,778	1,774,535

The large expansion in revenue and expenditure compared with the pre-war years is largely due to the fall in the value of money, but also reflects a real improvement in the Colony's financial position and increased services.

PUBLIC DEBT

The Public Debt at 31st December, 1947, was £605,360, the Sinking Fund on that date being £210,112 as compared with £605,360 and £190,878 respectively in 1946.

The position in loans is set out below :

<i>Loan and Amount</i>	<i>Amount out-standing</i>	<i>Sinking Fund at 31st December, 1947, at Cost</i>	<i>Date redeemable</i>	<i>Rate of interest</i>
	£	£	£	
Public Loan Act, 1914, and the Reimbursement Act, 1914—£249,000 . .	37,000	26,465	31,000-1961 6,000-1963	£11,000 at 4% £6,000 at 4½% £20,000 at 5%
General Local Loan Act, 1933, and Public Loans (Redemption) Act, 1933—£140,920 . .	140,920	71,912	1964	3½% per annum
Waterworks Loan Act, 1935—£155,500 . .	155,500	55,932	1961	3% per annum
Education Loan Act, 1935—£82,890 . .	82,890	16,071	1966	3½% per annum
Waterworks Loan Act, 1941—£35,400 . .	35,400	6,375	1966	3½% per annum
Local Loan Act, 1941—£68,000 . .	68,000	12,246	1966	£67,000 at 3½% £1,000 at 3%
Public Loans (Redemption) Act, 1942—£85,650 . .	85,650	21,111	1978	3½% per annum

£605,360 £210,112

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

The statement of assets and liabilities as at 31st December, 1947, is as follows :

<i>Liabilities</i>	£	s.	d.
Special Funds	330,923	19	10
Unexpended Balance	27,543	14	6½
Miscellaneous Funds not applicable to General Revenue but included in the Treasury cash .	155,648	15	2½
Unpaid vouchers	19,225	0	4
Balance at 31st December, 1947	1,385,819	11	3½
Total	£1,919,161	1	2½

<i>Assets</i>	£	s.	d.
Cash in Treasury	16,489	19	10½
Cash in Banks	403,332	4	8
Due by Crown Agents	767,803	19	9
Advances	190,208	0	1
Due by War Office	2,244	7	7
Due by Ministry of Pensions	2,545	1	5½
Sundry Accounts, Government Savings Bank .	10,078	11	5
Other accounts receivable	128,807	8	4½
Advances subsequently to be refunded from Loan Funds	41,139	8	0
Barbados Cricket Association (Inc.)	5,000	0	0
Investments—Market value at 31st December, 1947	351,512	0	0
Total	£1,919,161	1	2½

MAIN HEADS OF REVENUE

Customs Tariff

Specific rates of duty are imposed whenever practicable though, in view of the Island's dependence upon imported food, the duty on foodstuffs is low, especially on those commodities consumed in large quantities.

The tariff rates were greatly affected by the Canada-West Indies Agreement of 1925 which allowed the entry of produce and manufactures from Canada at rates below that of foreign items. Goods manufactured in any part of the British Empire were also included in this preference. The preference was reciprocal and exports from the Island have been granted lower rates in Empire markets.

Ad valorem duties range from 6 per cent. preferential to 30 per cent. general, but on most articles the rates are 10 per cent. preferential and

30 per cent. general. All rates, both specific and *ad valorem*, are subject to a surtax of 20 per cent. except those on articles named in the Trade Agreement of 1938 between the United Kingdom and the United States of America. *Ad valorem* duty is assessed on the factory cost of the item. Due to the continued drought and resulting shortage of locally grown vegetables the collection of additional duties on beets, cabbages, carrots, etc., was suspended.

Exemption from the payment of customs' duties is allowed on machinery and apparatus imported for use in the manufacture of sugar, rum, cotton, tobacco, etc. ; and during the year an Act was passed enabling the importation free of duty for a period of three years of articles manufactured from Sea Island cotton grown in the British West Indies. Exemption from duty is also allowed to fresh fruit, firewood, charcoal, coconuts, lemon and lime juice. These items are imported from neighbouring islands, arriving mainly by schooner.

The baggage, personal and household effects of consuls and consular officers and those of public officers in the service of the Crown transferred from any part of the British Empire are admitted duty free.

Excise

Rum is the only article on which an excise duty is levied and this is at the rate of 10s. 7d. per proof wine gallon. In addition there is a distillers' licence of 2d. per gallon on all rums distilled.

Originally rum was made in Barbados by means of pot-stills, usually producing rum at the strength of 40 per cent. over-proof. These small stills were established all over the Island, but they have now been replaced by patented and modern stills owned by four companies. These factories produce rum at a strength of 66 per cent. over-proof.

The local consumption of rum in 1947 was 325,907 gallons and the revenue derived from this was £178,635. There is a growing demand for Barbados rum in the markets abroad and 1,434,905 gallons were exported during the year compared with 1,231,506 gallons in 1946, the principal markets being the United Kingdom and Canada. The output of the distilleries has been increased and there are large stocks of rum maturing for exportation.

Stamp Duties

The amount of revenue collected in stamp duties during 1947-48 was £7,908 as compared with £8,475 in 1946-47. Stamp duties are imposed under the Stamp Act, 1916, and duty is charged on specified instruments set out in a schedule to the Act. The Registrar is appointed adjudicator to decide the amount of any duty to be charged, with an appeal lying to the Chief Judge of the Court of Common Pleas. In certain cases unstamped or insufficiently stamped instruments may be stamped after execution on payment of the full duty and a penalty of five pounds. The penalty may be remitted by the Governor-in-Executive Committee.

Stamp duty (6d.) is required on any agreement or memorandum of agreement above a value of £5 except for an agreement of wages or the purchase of goods, wares and merchandise. The rate of stamp duty for appraisements or valuation of property varies from 3d. to £1 depending

on the value of the property. The private banks are permitted to issue bank notes on the payment of a licence of £75. The stamp duty on cheques, receipts of £2 or more, and bills of exchange payable on demand is one penny.

Other more important stamp duties are :

	s.	d.
Bonds, for payment of money not exceeding £50	2	6
„ over £50 and not exceeding £100	5	0
„ for each additional £100 or part	2	6
Bond of indemnity	10	0
Transfer of real or personal property depending on value	1	0
	to 2	6
Deeds not otherwise described 5s.-10s. depending on value.		
Lease at £10-£20 depending on value	2	0
rising to £150-£200	£1	0 0
and for each additional £50 or part	5	0
Marriage licence	2	0
Mortgage, bond, debenture, covenant, bill of sale, judgment obtained or confessed	3	0
Affidavits and other notorial acts	1	0
Life insurance policies	1	0
Power of attorney	2	6
Appointment or discharge of a trustee	10	0

Occupancy Tax

The occupancy tax is a parochial tax levied by parishes on all persons occupying houses. The incidence of the tax varies from parish to parish and is approximately the equivalent of one to two months' rent. The tax is collected by the Parochial Treasurers during the month of April of each year.

Income Tax

The amount collected in income tax for the year 1947-48 was £213,725 from individuals and £360,622 from companies. This was an overall increase of £92,381 on the figures of £190,460 and £291,506, respectively, for 1946-47.

The rates of income tax for the year are set out in the table below :

	£	s.	d.
On every complete pound of taxable income up to	100 at	0	9
On every complete pound of taxable income beyond :			
100 and up to	200 at	1	3
200 „	400 at	2	3
400 „	600 at	3	3
600 „	800 at	4	3
800 „	1,000 at	5	3
1,000 „	2,000 at	7	3
2,000 „	2,500 at	8	9
2,500 „	5,000 at	11	0
5,000 „	at	13	6

Income tax is not paid on incomes below £100 in the case of single individuals and £200 in the case of married persons. Certain deductions are allowed, the chief being the first £200 of assessable income in respect of a married man, £40 in respect of each child and allowances for life insurance.

The income tax of companies is fixed at a flat rate of 6s. 8d. on every pound of assessable income ; for insurance companies it is based on the actual net profit of the year preceding the year of assessment.

The amount of income tax paid by persons in the various income brackets may be seen more easily from the following table :

<i>Income</i>	<i>Single man</i>	<i>Married man</i>	<i>Married man with two children</i>
£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
200	1 17 6		
300	6 17 6	1 17 6	
400	15 12 6	6 17 6	2 12 6
500	26 17 6	15 12 6	8 2 6
600	40 12 6	26 17 6	17 17 6
700	56 17 6	40 12 6	29 2 6
800	75 12 6	56 17 6	43 17 6
900	96 17 6	75 12 6	60 2 6
1,000	120 12 6	96 17 6	79 17 6
1,500	286 17 6	250 12 6	221 12 6
2,000	468 2 6	431 17 6	402 17 6
3,000	933 15 0	878 15 0	834 15 0
5,000	2,033 15 0	1,978 15 0	1,934 15 0
7,500	3,702 10 0	3,635 0 0	3,581 0 0
10,000	5,390 0 0	5,322 10 0	5,268 10 0
15,000	8,765 0 0	8,697 10 0	8,643 10 0

It is estimated that 1,500 persons pay income tax in the £100-£200 bracket and 10 pay on incomes in excess of £5,000. The total number of income taxpayers is estimated at about 3,200. The number of companies paying tax was 206.

Estate Duty

Death duty is payable under the Estate and Succession Duties Act, 1941. The amount paid in death duties during 1947-48 was £17,335 compared with £48,637 in 1946-47.

The scale of rates is shown in the following table :

Exceeds	£		£	rate	%
	500 and does not exceed		2,000	.	$\frac{1}{2}$
"	2,000	"	5,000	.	1
"	5,000	"	10,000	.	$1\frac{1}{2}$
"	10,000	"	15,000	.	2
"	15,000	"	20,000	.	$2\frac{1}{2}$
"	20,000	"	30,000	.	3
"	30,000	"	40,000	.	$3\frac{1}{2}$
"	40,000	"	50,000	.	4
"	50,000	"	60,000	.	$4\frac{1}{2}$
"	60,000	"	70,000	.	5
"	70,000	"	80,000	.	$5\frac{1}{2}$
"	80,000	"	90,000	.	6
"	90,000	"	100,000	.	$6\frac{1}{2}$
"	100,000	"	125,000	.	7
"	125,000	"	150,000	.	$7\frac{1}{2}$
"	150,000	"	175,000	.	8
"	175,000	"	200,000	.	$8\frac{1}{2}$
"	200,000	"	225,000	.	9
"	225,000	"	250,000	.	$9\frac{1}{2}$
"	250,000	.	.	.	10

Relief in the case of quick successions is allowed at the following rates :

	%
Where the second death occurs within one year of the first death .	75
Where the second death occurs within two years of the first death .	60
Where the second death occurs within three years of the first death .	45
Where the second death occurs within four years of the first death .	30
Where the second death occurs within five years of the first death .	15

OTHER TAXATION

The other principal heads of taxation are the package tax, tax on motor spirit and diesel fuel used in road vehicles and the police tax.

The yield from these taxes compared with 1946-47 was as follows :

Tax	1946	1947	Increase
	£	£	£
Package tax	31,952	40,273	8,321
Tax on motor spirit, etc.	90,601	109,782	19,181
Police tax	3,527	4,209	682

The package tax is a tax levied on the authority of the Package Tax Act, 1941, by which a levy of sixpence is made for every parcel of goods, wares and merchandise imported into the Island or taken out of bond for consumption in the Island. There are certain exemptions. Goods and merchandise arriving in bulk are also subject to package tax in accordance with a schedule which sets out the amount of the article that is deemed to be a package, for example, every 5 cwt. of machinery is considered one package and every 500 superficial feet of one inch thickness or less of timber. This tax is collected by the Customs authority in the usual way, or if the package arrives by post, by the Post Office.

The tax on motor spirit is at the rate of one penny per gallon and is collected from the importer who recovers from the consumer by the increased price of one penny on the purchase of a gallon of petrol.

The authority for the police tax is contained in the Police Tax Act, 1891. It is in effect a rate levied on landowners. The rate of tax is eightpence per acre and twopence in the pound of the annual rent of houses, but not on both rent and land. The tax is collected by Parochial Treasurers but paid into the Public Treasury.

Chapter 4 : Currency and Banking

CURRENCY

Government currency notes of the denominations of \$1.00, \$2.00, \$5.00, \$20.00 and \$100.00 are in circulation and are legal tender in British Guiana and Trinidad, as are the notes of those colonies in Barbados. The private banks also issue \$5.00, \$20.00 and \$100.00 notes although the issue of these notes has been restricted.

The accounts of the Government are kept in sterling while those of the commercial houses are in dollars and cents. British coin is legal tender and the chief medium of circulation. The British West Indies dollar is fixed at 4s. 2d., that is \$4.80 to £1 sterling.

The total issue of Government currency notes amounts to £449,592 in the following denominations and amounts :

	\$	£	s.	d.
528, 263 notes at	1.00 . .	110,054	15	10
127,291 ,,	2.00 . .	53,037	18	4
207,463 ,,	5.00 . .	216,107	5	10
8,449 ,,	20.00 . .	35,204	3	4
1,689 ,,	100.00 . .	35,187	10	0
		449,591	13	4

A West Indian Currency Conference, under the chairmanship of the Comptroller for Development and Welfare in the West Indies, was held in Barbados in May 1946. Representatives of the Governments of Barbados,

British Guiana, the Leeward Islands, the Windward Islands and Trinidad, with advisers from the Chambers of Commerce and the Banks, were present at the Conference, whose Report recommended the establishment of a Regional Currency Board and the unification of the currency of the Eastern Group of the West Indies on the basis of the British West Indian dollar worth 4s. 2d. In 1947 a preparatory Committee was appointed to consider the means of putting into effect the Conference recommendations.

BANKING

Private Banks

There are three overseas private banks operating in the Colony—Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas), the Royal Bank of Canada and the Canadian Bank of Commerce. The paid-up capital of each is respectively £4,975,500, \$35,000,000 and \$40,000,000, and the Head Offices are in London, Montreal and Toronto.

The Government Savings Bank

In addition to the private banks there is a Government Savings Bank, in which, at the end of June 1947, there were 36,870 depositors, 528 more than in the previous year; the total sum to their credit was £2,101,846, an increase of £8,822 over the previous year. There has been a steady increase in the use of the bank in recent years; since 1939 the number of depositors has doubled, the total sum to their credit has risen from £938,902 to £2,101,846 and the value of invested funds from £1,069,663 to £2,507,390. The rate of interest paid on deposits is 3 per cent. and since April 1933 there has been a limit of £300 on new deposits.

The Peasants' Loan Bank

The Peasants' Loan Bank was established in 1937 with a capital of £10,000 to be advanced from the Public Treasury as the bank from time to time might require. The objects of the bank are to make loans for various agricultural purposes such as irrigation, the purchase of livestock and manures, to enable the peasant proprietors to bring back into cultivation holdings abandoned through lack of capital. A peasant proprietor is defined as one who owns 10 acres or less. The bank is constituted a body corporate. It is controlled by a Board of Directors consisting of five members appointed as follows: the Director of Agriculture appointed by the Governor, one member appointed sessionally by the Legislative Council, two members appointed sessionally by the House of Assembly and one member appointed by the Agricultural Society of the Island. The accounts of the bank are audited by the Auditor-General, and a copy of his report is forwarded to the Governor and published in the *Official Gazette*. During 1947 loans amounting to £4,314 were advanced to 446 persons compared with loans of £4,033 to 433 persons during 1946.

The Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank

The Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank was established in 1907 and founded on a grant of £80,000 made by the Imperial Treasury in order to

assist the sugar industry of the Colony. The Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank Act, 1907, was replaced by the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank Act of 1943 in order that the usefulness of the money available might be extended to make loans for the carrying on of the management of sugar factories in the same way as the previous Act authorised loans for sugar plantations and sugar cultivation.

The net profit of the Bank for the financial year 1946-47* amounted to £2,465 as compared with £2,748 in the previous year. The capital of the Bank at the end of June 1947 was £280,244.

The Barbados Co-operative Bank Limited

The Barbados Co-operative Bank Limited is a privately owned bank incorporated in 1938, with a registered capital of £50,000. During the financial year ending on 28th February, 1947, there were 15,869 depositors in the savings branch, and the balance to the credit of depositors was £59,804. The Bank has a scheme of loans to enable persons to purchase their homes and during the year £123,229 was advanced.

Chapter 5 : Commerce

IMPORTS

The trade figures for the year 1947 showed an increase in the value of the main imports as compared with the previous year, the total value was £7,124,930, an increase of £2,132,438 over the 1946 figure of £4,992,492. This was mainly due to the higher prices of goods of all types and partly to greater quantities of goods being available for import by suppliers fulfilling long outstanding orders. The main increases were in respect of such commodities as animal feeding stuffs, flour, condensed milk, lumber, cottonpiece-goods, artificial silk goods, bags and sacks, hardware and machinery.

The comparative figures with those of 1946 are set out below :

<i>Item and Unit</i>	1946		1947		<i>Increase or Decrease in Value</i>
	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Value £</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Value £</i>	
Animal Foods, lbs.	14,447,145	111,143	18,310,786	174,650	+
Rice, lbs.	16,058,937	192,707	13,431,561	161,179	—
Flour, lbs.	21,415,744	245,844	23,452,772	418,799	+
Lard, lbs.	379,408	18,970	965	48	—
Milk, lbs.	1,323,553	52,942	1,924,978	86,624	+
Potatoes, lbs.	5,321,650	53,216	4,673,182	46,732	—
Lumber, ft.	7,186,660	156,346	11,605,384	302,594	+
Shingles, no.	21,993,800	54,984	14,853,850	37,135	—
Cotton Piece Goods, sq. yds.	2,362,641	188,548	2,620,248	308,322	+
Art. Silk Piece Goods, sq. yds.	680,643	97,057	1,151,112	234,033	+
Bags and Sacks, no.	630,500	40,982	1,163,700	116,370	+
Boots and Shoes, pairs.	202,747	127,133	232,199	152,441	+
Hardware, value	—	82,857	—	166,890	+
Iron and Steel Manu- factures, value	—	123,885	—	165,106	+
Machinery, value	—	163,173	—	278,947	+

* The year ends on 30th June.

An analysis of the main items of import showed increases in the values of imports from the United Kingdom, Canada, the United States of America, and a decrease in the value of rice imported from British Guiana.

The value of goods from the United Kingdom amounted to £739,265, an increase of £151,166 over 1946 when the figure was £588,099. This increase was due partly to a larger number of goods made available to the Colony and to increased prices; these items include iron and steel manufactures, machinery and hardware.

The value of imports from Canada increased by £243,278, that is to say, from £1,297,396 in 1946 to £1,540,674 in 1947. The rise in the cost of flour, the main import from Canada, was from \$12.15 per bag of 96 lbs. in January to \$16.32 in December; in addition, a greater quantity of flour was imported.

The upward trend of prices was, however, most noticeable in respect of imports from the United States of America, particularly in lumber, cotton-piece goods, artificial silks and machinery. The value of imports increased from £264,300 in 1946 to £868,557, an increase of £604,257. This increase was due to the freer import of commodities during the early part of the year until the financial situation forced a thorough reorientation of the import policy from dollar areas.

Owing to a shortage in the rice crop in British Guiana due to a severe drought, the quantity of rice imported decreased; the value was £161,179 being £31,528 below the 1946 figure of £192,707. This decrease in quantity had to be made up by a greater increase in flour imports.

EXPORTS

The total value of exports, excluding the transit trade, was £3,715,107, which was an increase of £572,943 over the 1946 figure of £3,142,164. This increase was due to the larger quantities of goods exported and to higher prices.

The following are comparative figures of the quantities and values of the main items of export:

<i>Item and Unit</i>	1946		1947		<i>Increase or Decrease in Value</i>
	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Value £</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Value £</i>	
Sugar, tons . . .	98,118	1,789,517	82,461	1,879,255	+
Molasses, gallons . . .	6,867,880	785,168	7,887,440	1,147,279	+
Rum, gallons . . .	1,234,827	255,244	1,467,654	343,703	+
Soap, lb.	575,760	18,854	806,430	31,214	+
Margarine, lb. . . .	287,920	16,806	300,350	19,596	+
Edible Oil, gallons . .	30,593	8,648	52,755	15,387	+
Cotton Lint, lb. . . .	9,848	1,231	14,214	1,738	+

The main increases were sugar to Canada £124,567, to other countries £50,197; molasses to Canada £295,528, to Newfoundland £59,859, to other countries £10,840; rum to United Kingdom £118,129. There was a decrease in the value of exports to United Kingdom of sugar, £85,000 and of molasses, £4,116; to Canada of rum, £28,000.

General

The prosperity of the Island centres around the sugar crop and the prices that can be obtained for sugar and other products arising from the industry. The year 1946 was a dry year, and, as a result, the crop for 1947 was not as good as it might have been. This is reflected in the smaller tonnage of sugar exported, though the value increased as a result of the higher price paid by the Ministry of Food.

The large importation of foodstuffs and lumber is essential in an Island with such a large population to the square mile, based on a sugar economy and lacking the space in which to grow adequate food crops. Although ground provisions are produced it is not possible for climatic reasons to produce the items which constitute the staple diet of the people—flour, rice and salted pork. The Island has no natural resources of timber so that reliance is placed on imported supplies of lumber, used for building purposes. Machinery is necessary for the rehabilitation of the sugar industry.

The visible adverse balance of trade, £7,124,930 imports against £3,715,107 exports gives a net figure of £3,409,823. Such an adverse balance has been an invariable feature of the trade of the Island and is in part offset by interest received on capital invested abroad, remittances from Barbadians who have settled overseas, and by the tourist traffic.

The value of trade for the post-war compared with the pre-war period indicates not only the increased prices of commodities, but indicates great advances in the standards of living of the people.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Imports</i>	<i>Exports</i>
1937 . .	2,220,650	1,498,341
1938 . .	2,086,901	1,218,379
1946 . .	4,992,492	3,142,164
1947 . .	7,124,930	3,715,107

This steady increase in trade will no doubt be curtailed when the restrictions on imports instituted to meet the dollar crisis have been fully felt. In fact, the imports fell very appreciably during the later part of the year. To what extent this will be reflected in the standards of living of the people is difficult to say, but the policy will be to ensure the provision of adequate food supplies though some consumer goods, particularly those that can in any case be classed as luxury goods, will be severely cut.

Chapter 6 : Production

Barbados contains an area of about 106,500 acres, of which 88,597 acres are stated in the 1946 Census Report to be occupied by 4,881 farms of one acre and over. The land in these farms is divided as follows : cultivated, 59,043 acres ; other cultivable, 2,150 acres ; pasture, 17,594 acres ; woodland, 1,510 acres, and other land, 8,300 acres. The area under irrigation from wells is 471 acres.

All arable land has been farmed as plantations for generations and has been owned by the occupiers or worked by local attorneys on behalf of absentee proprietors. Plantations vary in size from 10 to 500 acres. During the past thirty to forty years a number of these plantations have been cut up into small holdings and sold to peasants. The number of small plots of under one acre is given as 26,415. Methods of tenure are by complete purchase, incomplete purchase, under will, heir-at-law, as agent for owner abroad, or for deceased owner and otherwise.

SUGAR CANE

Sugar cane is grown as the principal crop on all plantations and on nearly all peasant holdings. In 1947 there were 33,466 acres of cane reaped by plantations and an estimated 8,000 acres by smallholders, making a total of 41,466 acres. The actual production of sugar was the equivalent of 111,232.3 tons made up as follows :

Vacuum Pan Sugars	.	.	86,368.6 tons
Muscovado	.	.	1,655.6 „
Fancy Molasses	.	.	23,208.1 „
			111,232.3 „

This represents a decrease of 22,488 tons of sugar as compared with the 1946 output and was due to the absence of heavy rains in October and November 1946. Voluntary returns submitted for 89 per cent. of the total acreage in canes harvested in 1947 showed that the yield of plant canes and ratoons was 20.94 tons per acre in the Low Rainfall Category ; 25.69 tons per acre in the Intermediate Rainfall Category and 28.23 tons per acre in the High Rainfall Category. There were no strikes, either in the field or factory, to interfere with reaping or grinding operations.

No new vacuum pan factories for sugar manufacture have been erected since 1939. On the contrary, seven of those operating since 1939 have ceased to function. During 1947 there were 24 vacuum pan factories, 2 muscovado factories and 18 fancy molasses steam-driven plants engaged in the manufacture of sugars and molasses.

COTTON

There were 125 acres of Sea Island cotton reaped in 1947 which produced 13,819 lb. lint and about 38,871 lb. seed. The lint was exported and the seed ground locally, the extracted oil being used as a cooking oil and the residue as a stock feed.

MAIN EXPORTABLE PRODUCTS

The main exportable products of the Island are dark crystal sugar, muscovado sugar, fancy molasses, choice molasses, vacuum pan molasses and rum which are all products of the sugar cane. Sugars of all grades exported in 1947 amounted to 82,459 tons ; it is estimated that 8,000 tons were consumed locally. Exports of choice molasses, which is a by-product

of muscovado sugar manufacture, totalled 219,789 wine gallons ; vacuum pan molasses, a by-product of dark crystal sugar manufacture, 10,500 wine gallons ; fancy molasses, 7,642,774 wine gallons ; and bottoms, 14,377 wine gallons.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

The following six stations have been established with Colonial Development and Welfare funds as part of the scheme for agricultural development : The Home, St. Philip ; Sayes Court, Christ Church ; Groves, St. George ; Haggats, St. Andrew ; Jerusalem, St. Peter ; and Bullens, St. James. These stations are laid out as demonstration and educative centres for the peasants in the districts which they serve and are provided with dwelling-houses, arable land, livestock and the necessary buildings for housing them, vegetable gardens, irrigation systems, pit silos, etc. The arable land is divided in such a manner as to permit of the carrying out of crop rotations which are planned on the basis of a mixed farming husbandry. Foundation livestock are being gradually built up to improve peasants' stock in the surrounding areas and there is an ever-increasing demand for the service of stud animals on the stations.

An up-to-date Central Dairying and Stockbreeding Station is being established on government lands at the Pine Plantation where dairying in all its aspects will be investigated and the possibilities of developing an economic system of animal husbandry explored. Special emphasis will be laid on dairying as an auxiliary to sugar production. It is also intended to utilise this farm as a centre for the improvement of the island's stock of horses, milch goats, pigs and poultry.

FORESTRY

The only part of Barbados where the old original forest covering of the Island still exists is Turner's Hall Wood which occupies an area of about 46 acres. This wood is preserved by statute.

The Island is dependent on imports of timber from the United States of America and from Canada whence large quantities of pitch pine, deal, spruce, fir, etc., are imported. Some supplies of timber are also obtained from British Guiana. The bagasse of crushed sugar cane furnishes a supply of fuel for the sugar factories while firewood and charcoal for household purposes are imported from British Guiana and the neighbouring islands.

With the object of promoting local afforestation, over 256,000 trees—mainly casuarina—have been distributed within the past six years, and, although it is not possible to say what proportion of these have been established, several small plantations have sprung into existence, notably at Dover, Christ Church ; Claybury and Bath, St. John ; Mt. Brevitor and Alleynedale, St. Peter ; Walkers, St. Andrew ; Walkes Spring, St. Thomas ; and Belle, St. Michael. There is also an area of about four acres of land planted in casuarinas, spaced 10 feet apart, at St. Ann's Fort and at Needham's Point.

Schemes have also been drawn up for the establishment of a casuarina plantation at Walkers, St. Andrew, and the rehabilitation of denuded areas in the Scotland district. These casuarinas will be used to augment the supplies of firewood.

FISHERIES

The fishing industry has been improved with the aid of funds granted under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act. Under this scheme a Fishery Officer has been appointed as well as an Advisory Committee to advise the Director of Agriculture and the Fishery Officer on fishery matters. Various schemes have been made, and others are under consideration, for the development of the fishing industry; they include marketing facilities, the enlarging of channels, grants for experimental work, capital grants for assisting fishermen to build new boats, insurance and assurance schemes, etc. Among the measures which have so far been executed are the erection of a new fish market in Bridgetown; successful blasting operations at Conset's Channel and Martin's Bay (St. John), Meg's Channel (St. Philip), Tent Bay (Bathsheba), and Crab Hill Bay (St. Lucy) which have all been deepened and widened; and the installation of eight sets of hauling-in gear at certain important points on the coast for use in case of emergency. The Legislature has passed an Act to regulate the fishing industry of the Island, and a resolution for £24,460 to provide for the further expansion and development of fisheries production.

A loan scheme financed by the local Government has been inaugurated. Under this scheme sums of money approved by the Fisheries Committee are loaned by the Fishery Officer to fishermen to enable them to build and repair their boats. These loans are free of interest for the first year and after this period has elapsed are subject to interest at 3 per cent. per annum. It is estimated that, as a result of this scheme, the fishing fleet has been augmented by 108 new boats. Altogether 802 loans have been approved for the construction of new boats and repairs to others. Up to the end of 1947, the total sum approved as loans was £12,350 9s., the total sum actually loaned £10,634 12s. 10d. and the total sum repaid £5,356 13s. 10d.

NATIONAL INCOME

Dr. Frederic Benham, B.Sc. (Econ.), who prepared a report on the national income of Barbados for 1942, placed the value of the exports of domestic produce at £1,950,000, the retail value of foodstuffs for local consumption at £630,000, and that of manufactures, public utility services, etc., for local consumption at £1,030,000. The net value of all goods and services produced in Barbados in 1942 was about £5,211,000 plus £374,000 net income from abroad, or £5,600,000 in round figures.

Appendix

NOTE ON SUGAR CANE BREEDING

The raising of new sugar-cane varieties from seed has been undertaken continuously in Barbados since 1888 and the best of these varieties have been grown, not only in Barbados but in most of the other sugar-cane

growing countries of the Caribbean. During the period from 1888 to 1925, the work of raising and selecting seedling canes in Barbados was undertaken almost entirely by Mr. J. R. Bovell, with the help of one or two assistants. The majority of the seedlings were obtained from open arrows and the record of the female parents of the seedling was only kept after 1903. During the first twenty-five years of this period, ten excellent new varieties were produced and these included the famous variety B.H. 10 (12). During the ensuing fifteen years only one seedling of commercial importance was produced; this was B. 726. As time went on it was becoming more and more difficult to produce new canes which were better than the existing commercial standards. This difficulty was partly due to the excellence of the new canes when compared with the original parents and partly because most of the variations in characters which the noble cane-breeding material used in Barbados was capable of passing on to the seedlings had already been obtained.

The work of J. R. Bovell and his colleagues during the first quarter of the present century in raising better yielding varieties was undoubtedly one of the major factors in preserving the sugar-cane industry from bankruptcy. When Mr. Bovell retired as Director of Agriculture in 1925, the local Government decided to create a new and enlarged Department of Science and Agriculture. Under this new organisation, it was inevitable that the existing methods of producing seedling canes should be examined carefully and critically; this examination resulted in the introduction of many innovations and developments. Dr. A. E. S. McIntosh, who was appointed as Botanist in 1928, has been largely responsible for the developments in cane breeding which have taken place since that time.

As a first step it was decided that hybridization should be adopted as the only method of obtaining seedlings so as to obtain a maximum amount of variability and a knowledge of the parent canes. The next important innovation was to test populations of seedlings from distinct crosses so as to assess the value of the particular cross for the production of seedlings. Crosses which produce poor populations are eliminated.

It was early recognised that the possibilities of the existing breeding material in Barbados had been very thoroughly explored over the previous forty years, and, in order to increase the range of variability of the seedlings, it was realised that fresh blood must be introduced. A great range of breeding material has been introduced into Barbados since 1925 and the policy has been to increase the range of variability in the seedling progeny and to concentrate on producing seedlings from the most successful combinations. The Barbados noble canes have been crossed with canes of other species of *Saccharum* and the best of the resulting progeny have been back-crossed to Barbados canes. This work of nobilisation has reached the stage of producing excellent commercial types.

The testing and selection of seedlings is as important a part of cane breeding as the raising of the seedlings themselves, and, with the application of modern statistical methods to the design and interpretation of field experiments, big developments have been made in selection methods. A large number of seedlings are produced each year and it is obviously desirable that no possible commercial seedling should be discarded during

the process of testing. In the Bovell epoch, approximately 5,000 seedlings were potted each year, of which 2,000 were selected for planting out in the field. At the present time 28,000 seedlings are potted, of which some 24,000 are planted out in the field nursery and approximately 15,000 are included in the first year seedling trials.

The excellence of the work carried out by the Barbados Cane Breeding Station was recognised at the West Indian Conference of Agricultural Officers held at the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture in Trinidad in 1930, when a resolution was passed recommending that this work should be continued and strengthened. Since that time, the Central Sugar Cane Breeding Station for the British West Indies has been established at Barbados and this station is supported by contributions from the Colonies of British Guiana, Jamaica, Trinidad, the Windward Islands and the Leeward Islands. During recent years the countries of Martinique, Guadeloupe and Venezuela have become annual contributors to the expenses of the Station and receive cuttings of all new commercial sugarcane varieties which are produced.

The nobilisation work has produced within a relatively short period a number of outstanding varieties which, in addition to showing greatly superior yields when compared with the old noble cane standards, have proved suited to a much wider range of conditions. Breeding material which is now available at Barbados has enormous potentialities and it is estimated that it will be possible to continue the production of better seedlings over a considerable period.

Since the reorganisation of the Barbados Department of Science and Agriculture in 1925, the total output of sugar from the same acreage of arable land has been almost doubled. Although this increased yield is partly due to improved agronomical methods, control of insect pests and diseases and improved factory recoveries, there is little doubt that the increased yields of the new varieties represent the biggest factor.

Chapter 7 : Social Services

EDUCATION

Elementary Schools

There are 126 elementary schools which are entirely maintained by Government funds, supplemented by a grant of £1,025 contributed by the eleven Vestries of the Island towards the upkeep of the school buildings, most of which are owned by the Government although some still remain vested in the Church and Vestry. The schools are divided into boys', girls', and senior and junior co-educational. There are 14,557 boys and 14,323 girls on the roll. The school leaving age is 14 years. The school inspectorate consists of two District Inspectors, an Inspector of Handicrafts, an Inspector of Domestic Subjects and an Inspector of Infants' Methods. There is a nutrition scheme which provides a mid-morning snack of milk and biscuits for each child.

Secondary Schools

There are eleven secondary schools—three first-grade and eight second-grade.

The three first-grade secondary schools with an attendance of 708 boys and 334 girls are Harrison College (boys), Queen's College (girls), both day schools situated in the Bridgetown area ; and the Lodge School, in the parish of St. John, a day school for boys which also has a boarding establishment attached. These schools prepare pupils for the School and Higher Certificates of the Oxford and Cambridge Schools Examination Board. The other eight schools, consisting of four boys', three girls' and one co-educational, are scattered throughout the Island, with an attendance of 985 boys and 570 girls. The pupils of these eight schools enter for the School Certificate Examination of the Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate.

Private Schools

In addition to the public elementary and Government-aided secondary schools, there are many well-run private schools for both boys and girls, which also enter candidates for the School Certificate Examination of the Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate. The Codrington High School in the parish of St. John and the Convent of the Sacred Heart in the parish of St. Michael are both day and boarding schools. The pupils of the Codrington High School enter for the School and Higher Certificate Examinations of the Oxford and Cambridge Schools Examination Board. There is at present no supervision of these schools by the Government.

The educational administration of the public elementary and Government-aided secondary schools is the responsibility of the Director of Education who is assisted by one Assistant Director and an advisory board appointed by the Governor. There still remains a system of local committees of managers of elementary schools, who advise on local school problems, such as necessary repairs to buildings, and assist in the final selection of staffs. The secondary schools have governing bodies for the purpose of administration.

Scholarships

Scholarships are provided for boys and girls to both first- and second-grade secondary schools from Government and Vestry funds. Two Island Scholarships, each valued at £70 per annum, tenable at Codrington College for three years, are awarded annually on the results of a special examination set by the Principal of the College. An annual scholarship known as the "Barbados Scholarship" is awarded on the results of the Oxford and Cambridge Higher Certificate Examination and is valued at approximately £1,000 plus passage expenses to the United Kingdom, and a cost of living allowance.

Training of Teachers

At the present time courses in art and domestic science are held on Saturdays during term-time, and Easter vacation refresher courses continue to be popular amongst the teachers. Classes in physical training, domestic science, handicrafts, and certain academic subjects are offered

each year. Erdiston College is scheduled to open on 19th January, 1948. It is a residential college with accommodation for sixteen men and sixteen women who will receive instruction in modern methods of teaching. It has a staff of principal, vice-principal, woman tutor and visiting instructors for specialised subjects.

Teachers' Examinations

Elementary school teachers are required to take two examinations—Certificates B and A.

- (i) *Certificate B* includes academic work up to the School Certificate standard together with school method and the principles of education.
- (ii) *Certificate A* is awarded on the results of work executed by teachers in connection with their school duties. The practical work involved is inspected by the officers of the Education Department who also examine the theses submitted by candidates at the conclusion of the project.

Adult Education

Provision is made for the education of adults at the Housecraft Centre in cookery, needlework and housewifery. In addition, courses in biology, English literature and architecture are run by the Association of Cultural Societies, the cost of lectures being paid by the Department of Education. A register of qualified lecturers has been compiled with a view to organising evening classes in 1948 for students who wish to take the Matriculation, Intermediate B.A. and Royal Society of Arts examinations. Technical courses for motor mechanics and electricians are also being arranged. At the Girls' Industrial Union, instructors paid by the Department of Education give courses in commercial subjects, applied art and cookery.

University Education

Codrington College, founded in 1710, under the will of General Christopher Codrington, who was born in Barbados, is under the control of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, and is affiliated to Durham University. It admits candidates to general, classical and theological degrees of that University.

Visual Education

The Mobile Cinema Unit still continues operations in the rural and suburban districts of the Island. The programmes comprise news reels from the Central Office of Information, health films from the local Medical Department, educational and general interest films, supplied in part by the local organisation of the British Council. One hundred and ninety-five performances were given during the year and the reaction of the audiences to all programmes has been gratifying. With the return of a teacher specially trained in visual education in the United Kingdom, the Department intends to extend the scope of visual aids in the schools even further. Special provision will also be made for teacher-training in visual aids at the

new Erdiston Training College. A mobile unit system has been specially adapted to provide weekly film-strip lessons to the Island's 126 elementary schools. These film-strips deal mainly with geographical and historical subjects, and nearly 200 lessons have been given under this system.

Vocational Education

There are no technical schools in the Colony. Elementary technical training is provided by the Board of Industrial Training under the Apprenticeship Bursaries Act, 1928. In this system the training is confined to placing the apprentices under master workmen who give them a five-year course and present them for examination at the end of each year. The Director of Education is a member of the Board. The whole system of vocational education is now under review by a committee appointed by His Excellency the Governor, and it is expected that recommendations will be submitted for a more advanced form of technical and vocational education. Cooking classes, laundry work and general housewifery are carried out in most of the girls' schools in the Island, and a number of the schools have moderately well-equipped kitchens in which the senior girls are given three-year courses in general domestic science. These classes are conducted by teachers trained at the Housecraft Centre by the Organiser.

A new Housecraft Centre with modern equipment is now in operation. The officer in charge, who is a qualified nutritionist, is attached to the Department of Education. Here the organisation of the domestic science curriculum for the Island is planned. At the same time classes are given to those teachers in the schools who are responsible for the teaching of domestic science in their schools.

The British Council

The British Council first sent its representative to Barbados in 1945 and since then has continued to promote interest in cultural activities of the Island. A number of exhibitions, including displays of photographs, were held which were well attended. In addition, the British Council did much in providing periodicals to local schools and societies and in supplying books for the libraries of secondary schools and in collecting reference books for the social and welfare branch and the office of the Architect and Town Planning Officer.

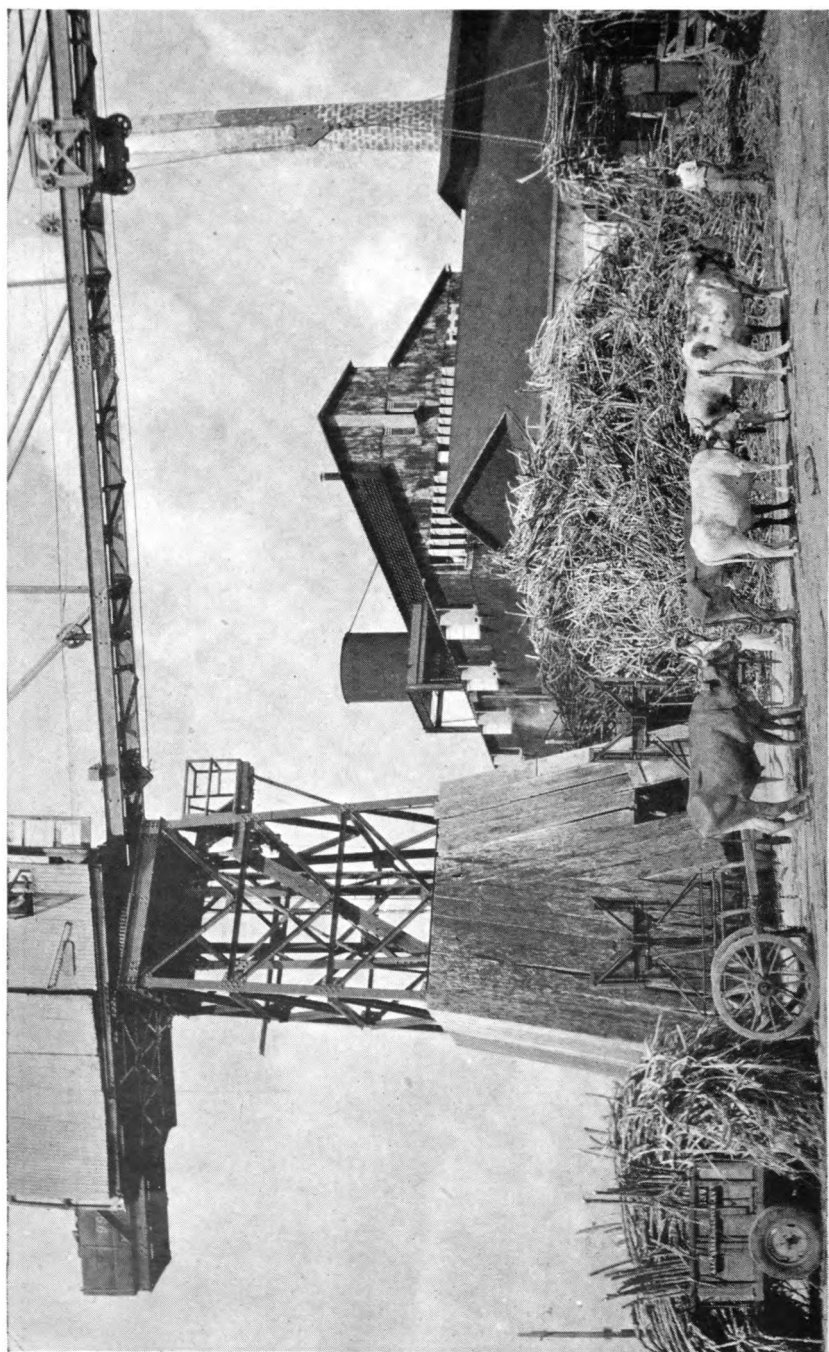
A 16 mm. film projector was used to give cinema shows to schools and the general public of documentary films of the British way of life, and educational films of scientific interest. Films were also loaned to the Government Mobile Cinema Van. A close co-operation was maintained with the Museum and an epidiascope provided for giving classes to school children which are very well attended and appreciated. Pictures were also lent to schools and the Public Library, and these were changed periodically to give variety.

A library of good and representative music has been built up and scores are lent to choirs and musical societies, as are selections from the library of gramophone records. Drama was assisted by the loan of plays and technical books to schools and the Bridgetown Players were assisted with make-up for their productions.



With acknowledgments to Barbados Publicity Committee

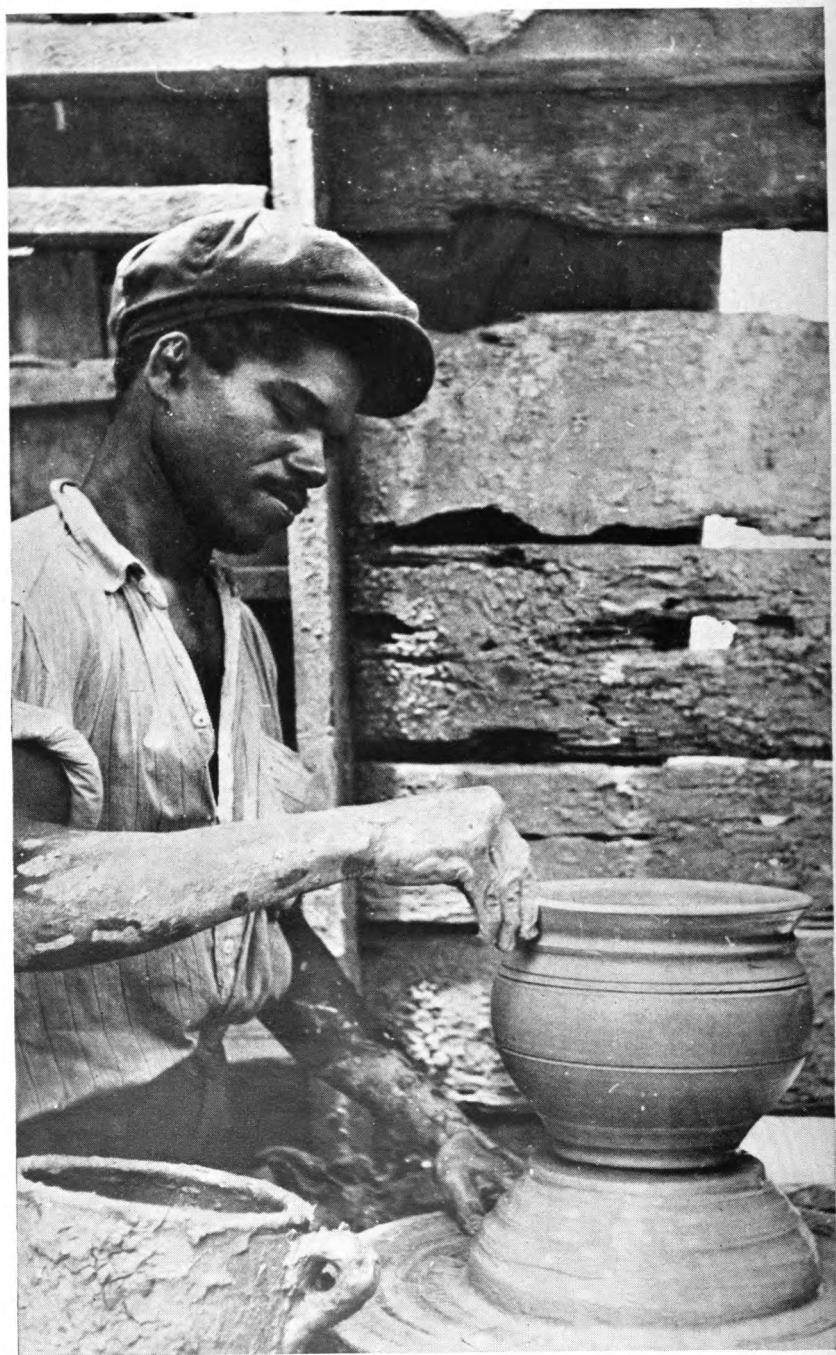
SCHOONER UNLOADING PRODUCE BY CHAMBERLAIN BRIDGE, BARBADOS



UNLOADING CANE AT SEARIE ESTATE IN THE OLD DAYS



AWAITING THE FISHING FLEET



With acknowledgments to Barbados Publicity Committee

POTTER AT HIS WHEEL, CHALKY MOUNT, BARBADOS

Two scholarships were provided by the British Council during the year to Barbadians, one to a master of Harrison College to enable him to take a special course in the teaching of English at the University of London, and the other an Inspector of Domestic Subjects to take a course at the Leicester Domestic Science Training College. In addition a master at Combermere School paid a short visit to the United Kingdom as a guest of the British Council, specialising in drama, painting and literature.

During the year the British Council moved its headquarters to "Wakefield," a much more suitable building, which, set in its own grounds and having a number of large and airy rooms, has enabled the British Council to extend its activities considerably, especially making possible film displays and musical and discussion evenings.

The Museum and Historical Society

The Barbados Museum and Historical Society was incorporated by a special Act of the Legislature in the year 1933. The Government gave the Society a lease, for ninety years, of the old abandoned Military Prison. Their Museum is one of the best in the West Indies. The work began in 1933 with the aid of a grant of £1,500 from the Carnegie Corporation of New York and smaller grants from the Barbados Government. About £5,000 has been spent on buildings to house the collections of books, pictures, models, specimens of birds and fishes. There is also an excellent collection of pottery, axe heads, etc., derived from the original Arawaks of the Island and a fine collection of Carib stone implements. A great deal of interesting material of this kind lies buried in those districts which were inhabited by the Arawak Indians and awaits the time when someone will be available to unearth it. A recent development is the formation of a Children's Museum with the aid of funds provided under the Colonial development and Welfare Act. Monthly visits have been made by teachers and children from eleven schools. The Society publishes a quarterly journal which is now in its fourteenth volume. It is hoped to appoint a professional curator.

Public Library

There is a free Public Library in Bridgetown. It was established under Government control in 1847 and is supported by public funds. From the beginning of the century the Library has been housed in a building donated by Mr. Andrew Carnegie, but as the existing accommodation is proving inadequate for the rapidly expanding library services, extensions to the buildings are under consideration.

The Public Library continued its programme of extension into the rural areas and has now established four library deposit stations along with the branch in Speightstown from which the public may borrow books. Such extension was preceded by a rural demonstration, for which a mobile unit was used. This demonstration proved how eager the country folk were for reading matter.

On 21st October, 1947, the centenary of the Library was celebrated with a special book display. The Library dates its foundation from the passing of the first Public Library Act on 21st October, 1847. It is worthy of note

that a similar Act did not become law in the United Kingdom until almost three years later.

During the year, under the terms of a British Council studentship, a member of the Library staff was afforded training at the Regional Library (British Council) in Trinidad. There are now four such trained persons on the staff.

HEALTH

Staff

Medical aid is rendered to the poor, destitute and labourers by twelve part-time Parochial Medical Officers, who are appointed and paid by the eleven Vestries of the Colony.

The work of the General Hospital was carried out by a staff, consisting of a Medical Superintendent, a Radiologist, three Visiting Surgeons, three Assistant Visiting Surgeons, one Ophthalmic, Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeon, one Assistant Ophthalmic, Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeon, one House Surgeon and Anæsthetist and three House Surgeons. During the year the hospital staff was increased by three Visiting Out-patient Physicians to deal with the growing number of out-patients. This has served to ease the strain on the House Surgeons and relieve them for more important duties in the Hospital.

General Health

The health of the Colony during the year was average. There were only minor outbreaks of whooping cough and mumps. There were no epidemics of any serious diseases.

The death rate remained similar to that of previous years. The chief causes of death remain diseases of the circulatory, respiratory and digestive systems.

The nutritional status of the population was maintained during the year at practically the same level as that of the previous year. Meat and fats were scarce and the prolonged drought caused a shortage of ground provisions. A subsidy on certain staple foods, however, kept essential foodstuffs within the purchasing power of the working classes.

Reorganisation of Medical Services

A feature of the progress made during the year was the passing of two important public health Acts. One of these, the Medical Services Act, provides for the establishment of a Department of Medical Services, under a Director of Medical Services who will be responsible to the Governor for all matters affecting public health and medical services in the Island. The other Act was the Quarantine Act. This will enable the Colony to bring its quarantine procedure in line with that of the other West Indian Islands. These two Acts were passed by the Legislature and only await proclamation.

During the year a new Public Health Act was drafted and it is hoped that this will be presented to the Legislature at an early date. The passage of this Bill, together with the two Acts already referred to, will provide the necessary legislation to build up a modern and efficient public health service in the Colony.

The Barbados General Hospital Act was also enacted in 1947 and was brought into force early in 1948. This Act abolishes the Hospital Board and makes the hospital a Government institution under the direction and control of the Chief Medical Officer (in future the Director of Medical Services).

Communicable Diseases

Enteric Fever. Ninety-seven cases were notified as compared with sixty-nine in 1946, and seventy-one in 1945. The control of this disease rests on the long-term policy of providing better sanitary convenience for the disposal of excreta in working-class houses. During the year latrines of a suitable design were provided in certain homes where enteric fever had occurred. This is only the beginning of what is hoped will develop into a large scheme which will greatly improve rural sanitation.

Tuberculosis. Ninety-nine cases were notified as compared with 107 in 1946 and eighty in 1945. The majority of cases occur in the crowded city of Bridgetown and its environs. The problem of control is difficult, especially in the absence of any organised public health service. The provisions embodied in the new Public Health Bill, shortly to be presented to the Legislature, will afford greater scope for tackling this disease.

Dysentery. Fifteen cases were notified. No differentiation between amœbic and bacillary dysentery was made.

Diphtheria. Thirty-six cases were notified as compared with twenty-three in 1946. Alum-precipitated diphtheria toxoid for active immunisation was supplied to private practitioners. The active immunisation of infants and school children must await the reorganisation of the public health services.

Cerebrospinal Meningitis. The number of cases notified was eight as compared with thirty-nine in 1946 and 115 in 1945. This disease, which was introduced in 1945 by labourers returning from the United States of America, appears to be dying out rapidly.

Leprosy. Two cases were notified during the year. At the close of 1947 there were forty-four cases under treatment at the Leper Hospital. From the notifications in the last few years it would appear as if this disease is dying out. This is probably due to improved living conditions and better nutritional standards.

Poliomyelitis. No cases were notified during the year under review.

Venereal Disease. All five members of the venereal disease group occurred during the year, but syphilis and gonorrhœa predominated. The venereal diseases are not notifiable and reliable figures are, therefore, not available as to the real extent of these diseases. The diagnosis, early treatment and control of these diseases will form an important part of the anticipated new health services.

Institutions

The Barbados General Hospital. The accommodation at the hospital remained inadequate during the year. A new pay ward was built but was not completed until late in the year. This ward will, however, do little to relieve the congested state of the hospital.

Now that the Barbados General Hospital Act is passed, it is proposed to improve the standard of work at the hospital by adding to the staff a Surgeon Specialist and a Medical Specialist. These appointments, together with other changes, will put the hospital in a position to render a greater service to the public than was hitherto possible.

The Mental Hospital. This institution is overcrowded. For the accommodation of patients it has 31 dormitories, 4 day rooms and 311 single rooms. During the year building operations were started for increasing ward accommodation as well as improvements to buildings for the use of the staff. At the close of the year the number of inmates was 742. Patients received modern treatment given by expert medical staff.

The Leper Hospital. The work of this institution was well maintained during the year under review. During the latter part of the year supplies of the new drugs, promin and diazone, were obtained and it is proposed to start the treatment of patients with these drugs early in 1948. At the close of the year there were forty-four inmates in residence. During the year two patients were discharged as cured and four others were awaiting medical boards prior to discharge.

The Prison Hospital. This hospital is in the charge of a visiting physician. There is accommodation for men and women.

The Government Industrial School. The health of the children was satisfactory during the year. There was no serious outbreak of any disease. The medical work of this institution is carried out by a part-time Visiting Physician.

The Maternity Hospital. It is with great pleasure that an advance can be recorded in the progress of the Maternity Hospital. During the year work had gone ahead in altering and equipping the hospital, and it was possible to open the ante-natal clinic on 19th December, 1947. The wards of this hospital will be opened in January 1948.

This hospital has been erected primarily for the training of pupil midwives; for many years no facilities existed for such training and the lack is reflected in the high infantile mortality rate of the Colony. Provision is made for the training of twenty pupil midwives. Ten of these will be trained nurses who will undergo a period of training for one year. The other ten are untrained women and their course of training will extend over a period of eighteen months. The hospital provides twenty beds for expectant mothers.

The hospital is under the charge of a visiting obstetrician and a matron who are responsible to the Chief Medical Officer for the conduct and training of the pupils.

Parochial Almshouses. Each of the eleven parishes provides an almshouse for the care of the sick who are unable to pay for their medical care, and the housing of the aged and destitute. These institutions function really as "cottage hospitals" and serve in helping to relieve the burden on the General Hospital.

The Parochial Medical Officers performed their duties in a highly efficient manner and gave great care and individual attention to the

patients under their care. The administrative duties of the almshouses are in the hands of the Churchwardens and Boards of Guardians who take a keen and active interest in the institutions under their care.

Hygiene and Sanitation

The administration of hygiene and sanitation remained vested in eleven separate and independent Boards of Commissioners of Health appointed on a parochial basis. These boards consist of laymen who conduct their business without the aid or advice of a trained public health officer. Under these conditions little progress can be expected until the proposed re-organisation is accepted by the Legislature and implemented by the appointment of medical officers of health and public health nurses.

The scavenging of Bridgetown has shown a marked improvement since the work has been taken over as a departmental activity by the Commissioners of Health for St. Michael.

Pupils of elementary schools continue to receive instruction in hygiene and sanitation from their teachers. There is no organised school medical service but children receive adequate dental and visual treatment.

Public lectures and radio broadcasts were given by the Chief Medical Officer and the Sanitation Officer.

Food in Relation to Health

During the year the subsidies of certain staple foods have been maintained and even increased. This has served to keep the cost of these essential items of diet within the purchasing power of the lower income groups.

The nutritional standard of the population has been maintained during the year under review and no abnormal increase of any of the deficiency diseases has been recorded.

Training of Health Personnel

One medical officer returned to the Colony during the year after taking a post-graduate course in obstetrics at Edinburgh University, and has taken up his duties as visiting obstetrician at the Maternity Hospital. Two sanitary inspectors and two nurses were sent to Jamaica for public health training. The three nurses sent to the United Kingdom under the London County Council scheme continue to make satisfactory progress. During the year organised lectures and demonstrations were given to sanitary inspectors. Fourteen candidates were successful in obtaining local certificates.

HOUSING

The houses of the poorer sections of the population are mostly built of imported lumber and shingles. The average sizes are one to three rooms of an overall dimension of 12 ft. × 10 ft. to 20 ft. × 14 ft., with a lean-to kitchen at the back. A great many are in urgent need of repair and should unhesitatingly be condemned as unfit for human habitation—many are overcrowded. A survey, under the direction of the Housing Board, of 8,000 of these houses within the city boundary of Bridgetown shows that 62 per cent. are owned by the occupants—nearly all of them

are on rented land. Three thousand were considered unfit for habitation and 4,000 needed repair and/or enlargement. The survey was based on standards of overcrowding, density and structural condition laid down by the Town Planning and Housing Adviser to the Comptroller for Development and Welfare in the West Indies.

The first housing scheme at Deacons Road was completed in 1941 and consists of sixty-six houses of good design and well spaced. Properly constructed roads have been laid down.

A second scheme at Belfield, in which plots have been laid out and roads built, has been completed. Each plot is to be provided with a water closet, shower bath and individual standpipe. These structures have been erected but in spite of repeated efforts, sanitary fittings are not yet obtainable. This has delayed the putting into operation of the scheme. As soon as these fittings can be obtained and installed, structurally sound houses can be moved from congested areas to this site.

Legislation to co-ordinate all housing activities under a central authority with a proper relation to slum clearance and town planning development went to the House of Assembly during the past session, but has not yet become law.

The Government has acquired a large estate on the outskirts of Bridgetown for housing development and a committee under the chairmanship of the Architect and Planning Officer has made recommendations for its utilisation. The Government has under consideration proposals to acquire further land within the city area for the development of housing estates. An experimental coral stone house with timber and asbestos roof has been constructed to ascertain post-war costs and develop methods of construction. The Housing Board is advised on all technical aspects of these developments by the Government's Architect and Planning Officer.

SOCIAL WELFARE

The Promotion of Community Life

Barbados Welfare Limited is a non-profit-making, non-political and non-sectarian organisation incorporated in 1943 as a Company under the laws of Barbados. It is run on lines suggested by Professor Simey, late Adviser to the Comptroller for Development and Welfare in the West Indies. The Company has for its principal objects the assisting of the working people and the peasants in the development of a better homelife, the encouraging of individuals to work together to make a better community, especially in regard to the use of leisure (by recreational and cultural activities), and the co-operative development of home industries and handicrafts. There are thirty-two clubs affiliated to Barbados Welfare Limited. In the implementation of its programme, Barbados Welfare Limited assists financially rather than competes with existing bodies wherever it is satisfied that their objectives are similar to those of the Company. The Company's policy excludes all forms of charitable relief to individuals. The Company is financed by a grant, not exceeding £2,000 a year, from Development and Welfare funds and by voluntary subscriptions. The assistance given by Development and Welfare is on a basis of £1 for every £1 raised by voluntary subscriptions.

Other Organisations

The Boy Scouts and Girl Guides.

The Y.M.C.A.

The Young Men's Progressive Club.

In addition to these there are many well-organised social clubs besides those affiliated to Barbados Welfare Limited.

Games. The principal outdoor games are cricket, football and tennis and inter-colonial matches are played. Hockey is played at one or two schools ; and there is an up-to-date golf club.

Sea Bathing. Ample facilities for sea-bathing exist along the southern and western coasts of the Island as well as at isolated spots along the eastern and northern coasts. There are three aquatic clubs and a Royal Yacht Club. Regattas are held regularly.

Theatres. There are three cinematograph theatres, one of which is a privately owned recreational and social club.

Parks. Queen's Park, St. Michael and King George V Memorial Park, St. Philip, are open daily to the public.

Friendly Societies. There are 163 Friendly Societies on the register. Total membership approximates to 81,500, but many persons belong to more than one society ; dependents number about 376,500. Contributions average £115,000 annually. These societies provide relief in sickness, assist in the payment of funeral expenses and give a Christmas bonus to " financial " members.

The Relief of the Destitute and Disabled

Old Age Pensions. The first Old Age Pension Act came into operation on 1st May, 1938, and made provision for the payment of pensions to persons who had reached the age of seventy years at a maximum rate of 1s. 6d. per week, with a means test of 4s. By amending Acts the qualifying age has been reduced to sixty-eight years, the pension has been made available to blind persons at the age of forty years, and the pension and the means test have been increased to 3s. and 5s. a week respectively. During 1947 the sum of £52,257 was paid in old age pensions to 6,847 persons, and administrative expenses were £1,768.

Parochial Poor Relief. The total number of persons who received parochial poor law relief for the year ended 24th March, 1947, was 20,160 at a cost of £91,383.

An almshouse (which for practical purposes is equivalent to a cottage hospital also) is maintained in each parish of the Island. The number of persons admitted for relief into the almshouses was 3,591—737 on account of destitution, and 2,854 for indoor medical relief.

The care and maintenance of the infirm, aged and destitute poor is a duty of the Vestry of the parish in which such persons are domiciled. The Poor Relief Act, 1892, established the organisation which the respective Vestries have to create for carrying out these duties, but each Vestry has very wide discretion in the manner of carrying them out. The Poor Law Board—a Government department—are required by the Poor Relief Act

to satisfy themselves that the provisions of the law relating to the Vestries, and all other Acts for the time being in force relating to these duties are carried out. Regular inspections of the parochial poor relief organisations, including institutions, are made at least twice a year by the Chief Medical Officer, who reports when necessary to the Governor, the Poor Law Board, and/or the Poor Law Guardians, the last-named being the appointees of the Vestry, who are charged with these duties.

Charitable Institutions. The following are supported by private donations and subscriptions :

Ladies' Association for the relief of the indigent, sick and infirm ;
the Goodridge Home for distressed gentlemen ;
the Bessie Yearwood Home for orphans ;
the Haynes Memorial School (formerly the Daily Meal School) ;
the St. Mary's Home for elderly women ;
the St. Paul's Home for elderly women ;
the Almair Home for elderly gentlewomen ;
the Home for elderly gentlemen ;
the Family Welfare Society.

The St. Vincent de Paul Society and the St. Patrick's Poor School are supported by Roman Catholic Church funds.

The St. Matthias Poor House is maintained by St. Matthias Church (Anglican) funds.

The Baby Welfare League, the Christ Church Baby Welfare League and the Children's Goodwill League receive, in addition to private donations, Government and Vestry grants annually.

The Salvation Army have, at their headquarters, night shelters for men and women.

Probation Services

Early in 1946 a Probation Officer, an officer of the Salvation Army, was appointed and during 1947 a female Probation Officer was appointed. The appointments have proved most satisfactory and the Courts are making good use of the services of these officers. During the year 248 boys and 190 girls were brought before the Juvenile Courts and their cases were investigated by the Probation Officer, and 66 boys and 34 girls were placed on probation.

Chapter 8 : Legislation

The year 1947 was not remarkable either for the amount or for the importance of the legislation which found its way on to the Statute Book, but the list of Bills passed is not a true indication of the amount of legislative business which was transacted. Under existing practice provision for expenditure of an extraordinary or capital nature is not normally included

in the annual estimates, but legislative authority is sought for each scheme, whether expenditure is to be from Government funds or funds made available under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act. Indeed no expenditure can be incurred without specific legislative sanction. Some idea of the amount of time devoted to financial business can be obtained from the fact that during the year the Legislature passed 101 money resolutions to a total value of £860,940.

Among the Acts passed during the year was the Sugar Industry (Rehabilitation, Price Stabilisation and Labour Welfare) Act, which implemented the arrangements made between the Ministry of Food, the Colonial Office, the West Indian Governments and the representatives of the British West Indies Sugar Association whereby the price of sugar for the 1947 crop paid by the Ministry of Food was increased by £4 15s. per ton on condition that funds were established for the benefit of the workers engaged in the industry and for stabilising the price of sugar.

An Act was passed to consolidate the pension legislation—the Pensions Act, 1947—and was based on a model supplied by the Secretary of State. The most important changes involved were the lowering of the age of compulsory retirement from sixty-five to sixty years, and the age of optional retirement from sixty to fifty-five. The unit of pension was changed and also the method of computing the pension of officers transferred from the Colony to the services of scheduled Governments.

The most important social Act passed was the Factories Act, although it has yet to be put into force. Under this Act a Factory Board is to be set up with which every factory must register the Board having power to refuse registration if the factory is not up to an approved standard. The Act contains provisions for safeguarding workers against bodily injury arising from dangerous machinery, and for securing suitable sanitary conditions for employees. It also sets up machinery for enquiry into cases of accident and for regulating the working conditions of women and young persons.

Two Acts were passed in furtherance of the programme of the Government in establishing efficient medical and health services in the Colony, namely the Department of Medical Services Act and the General Hospital Act. The remaining Public Health Bill has still to be presented to the Legislature. Finally, a Quarantine Act was passed which carried into effect the recommendations made in the Report of the British West Indian Quarantine Conference held in 1943.

Chapter 9 : Justice, Police and Prisons

JUSTICE

The Chief Justice of the Island is appointed by His Majesty the King and presides over the Superior Courts, that is to say, the Courts of Chancery, Common Pleas, Ordinary, Divorce and Matrimonial Causes, Grand Sessions, Admiralty, Bankruptcy, Escheat and Error.

The Court of Error hears appeals from the Assistant Court of Appeal when that Court has exercised both original and appellate jurisdiction.

However, appeals to the Court of Error from the Assistant Court of Appeal on a finding made in its appellate capacity is limited to points of law, though appeals from its original jurisdiction may be made on both points of law and points of fact.

Appeals lie from the Superior Courts mentioned above, except the Court of Grand Sessions, to the West Indian Court of Appeal. In the case of the Court of Grand Sessions the Chief Justice may in his own discretion reserve any question of law arising during the hearing of any matter before the Court of Grand Sessions for the consideration of the West Indian Court of Appeal. The right of appeal from a decision of the West Indian Court of Appeal to His Majesty in Council is preserved by section 14 of the West Indian Court of Appeal Act, 1920.

The Court of Grand Sessions sits three times a year in March, July and November. Before a person can be brought before the Court for trial on a criminal charge the Grand Jury must return a True Bill.

The Assistant Court of Appeal has original and appellate jurisdiction. Two judges sit together when the Court is in its appellate sessions, but only one judge sits when it is exercising its original jurisdiction. In its original jurisdiction the Court has powers to determine cases of contract in which the value of the claim exceeds £20 but does not exceed £50 and in cases of tort where the claim is over £10 but does not exceed £50. The Court also possesses powers to deal with limited cases of Equity and Probate. In its appellate jurisdiction the Court hears appeals from the decisions of the Magistrates and from the Court of the Petty Debt Judge for Bridgetown. The Magistrates preside over the District Police Courts, three hearing the criminal cases that arise in Bridgetown and four hearing those in the other Districts of the Island. In Bridgetown there is, in addition to the Magistrates dealing with criminal cases, a Petty Debt Court Judge who presides over civil cases. The four District Magistrates outside Bridgetown deal with both criminal and civil cases.

The Magistrates also deal with cases involving juvenile offenders and complaints against children and young persons are heard at special times and in different buildings from the main court and they are assisted by the Probation Officer, who was appointed during the year.

No cases of exceptional interest either in fact or from questions of law were heard during 1947.

POLICE

Towards the end of 1945 Superintendent Calver of the London Metropolitan Police Force submitted a Report on the conditions of service, administration and organisation of the Barbados Police Force, and the recommendations regarding improved rates of pay, together with other recommendations, were put into effect during 1946, by the passing of the Police (Amendment) Act, 1946, and other changes in accordance with the recommendations have been made from time to time, but have not involved amendments to legislation.

The establishment of the Force, as authorised in the Police (Amendment) Act, 1946, is one Commissioner, one Deputy Commissioner, six Superintendents, three Sergeants-Major, 19 Sergeants, 25 Lance-Sergeants, 67 Corporals and 442 Constables, together with 37 Writ Servers. The

actual strength was less than these figures by one Sergeant and 42 Constables and one Writ Server, but in the light of Superintendent Calver's recommendations for a drastic reduction of personnel the establishment figure is under active consideration. Distributed over the Island are nine police stations, seven sub-stations, eight police posts and a guard-house.

The total number of cases of all kinds reported to the Police during 1947 was 6,457 as compared with 6,349 in 1946. Indictable and minor offences numbered 423 and 3,300 respectively, in 1947. In addition there were 2,734 traffic cases, in comparison with 2,280 in 1946. These figures show an increase of 32 indictable offences and 454 traffic cases and a decrease of 378 minor offences. Larceny in all its forms decreased slightly in the 1946 figure which was 100 per cent. increase on the figure for 1945. It is considered that the continued shortage of consumer goods is responsible for the high incidence of larceny. The increase in traffic cases is doubtless the result of the increasing traffic on the roads. There were three cases of murder and, as in 1946, one case was discharged as a result of the medical evidence at the preliminary hearing and two were reduced to manslaughter.

Cane fires reported which formed the subject of police investigation numbered 280 compared with 152 in 1946; the acreage damaged was 3,701 compared with 2,246. In only twenty-two cases was it considered that incendiarism was responsible, the excessive drought and high winds were undoubtedly contributing factors.

PRISONS

There is one Central Prison, the Glendairy Prison, which houses male and female prisoners in separate compounds, and has cellular accommodation for 275 males and 125 females. The establishment consists of the Governor of the Prison and thirty-four male and nine female prison officers.

Male prisoners are classified for the purpose of vocational training and of separating as far as possible first offenders from recidivists. Female prisoners do the cooking and clothes-washing for the whole prison.

First offenders are only employed on duties inside the prison and generally these duties are of a lighter nature and may involve vocational training under instructors in carpentry, tailoring, breadmaking and other trades. Other offenders are employed in stone-quarrying, stone-breaking and the upkeep of Government lands outside the prison.

Offenders in the First Division are permitted to obtain their food outside at their own expense and may wear their own clothes, and are employed as light labour within the prison. Prisoners in the Second Division wear a distinctive dress from the ordinary offenders. Unconvicted prisoners awaiting trial are permitted to wear their own clothing and may procure their own food from outside, and if they work are paid for it.

A medical officer visits the prison daily and examines all new admissions in addition to attending to sick offenders. The general health of the prisoners during 1947 was good, and only one death occurred from myocarditis. The Church of England Chaplain visits the prison three times a week and conducts services on Sundays and festivals. In addition he supervises a library and school which are maintained for the benefit of

The total number of persons imprisoned during 1947 was 228, a decrease on the 1946 figure which was 233. The daily average was 118 males and 12 females compared with 116 males and 11 females during 1946.

GOVERNMENT INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS

In addition to schooling the boys assist in the cane crop and are given vocational training in carpentry, masonry, tailoring, gardening, basketry, animal husbandry and agriculture. The girls are taught laundry work, cooking, fancy and plain needlework. The activities of the school include sports and games, with matches against neighbouring teams, concerts, mobile cinema shows and sea-bathing. Several visits were made by parents, guardians and friends throughout the year and a system of granting home leave of one day each time was in operation for deserving boys only. Contact was maintained with those discharged by the "after-care" officers and as much assistance as possible was given them in finding suitable employment.

Chapter 10 : Public Utilities

WATERWORKS

A scheme has been prepared by the Waterworks Department for the future extension and development of the water supply system and is under consideration by the Electric and Hydraulic Adviser to the Comptroller for Development and Welfare in the British West Indies; the estimated cost is £369,675. An interim report has been submitted, and the sum of £112,000 has been made available for implementing the first part of the report.

ELECTRICITY

Electricity is supplied by a private company, the Barbados Electric Supply Corporation Limited, to private and public premises, and is used for street lighting in Bridgetown and part of Christ Church. Power is

supplied to many of the sugar factories. The company operates under the Electric Light and Power (Provisional Orders Confirmation) Act, 1907. The whole Island is not yet supplied but under the terms of the Act the company has the right to extend its service to any area within fifty years from 1st August, 1936.

Electricity is generated at 3,300 volts and is supplied to the H.T. distribution network at 3,300 volts and 11,000 volts. Domestic and other low-tension supply is at 110 volts, 50 cycles A.C. ; general power supply is at 208 volts, 2- and 3-phase. The number of consumers at 31st December, 1947, was 6,987 compared with 6,318 in 1946.

A Government Electrical Inspector has been appointed under the Electricity Act, 1936. His duties are to inspect annually all Government installations and apparatus, to inspect new installations on public or private premises to see that they comply with the Electric Light and Power Act and that they meet the proper safety requirements, and the wiring from the Electric Company's mains to the consumers' meters. In addition, the Government Electrical Inspector performs duties and is invested with powers under the Wireless Telegraphy Act, 1940.

GAS

A small Gas Company operates under the terms of the Gas Act, 1911, and supplies gas to private consumers in the Bridgetown and Hastings areas. In addition, some of the older parts of Bridgetown still use gas for street lighting.

BROADCASTING ACTIVITIES

A wire broadcasting system, confined to Bridgetown and to suburbs, is provided by a local company—Radio Distribution (Barbados) Limited—with 2,104 subscribers. The company operates under an agreement with the Government entered into in accordance with the provisions of the Wireless Telegraphy Act, 1940, and relays programme items received by wireless from abroad and also broadcasts news of local and West Indian interest.

The only direct reception in the Island is from the British Broadcasting Corporation's Empire Service and foreign stations operating on short-wave-lengths. There is no local wireless broadcasting service, but Government possesses a small transmitter which is used occasionally to transmit, locally and to neighbouring Islands, programmes approved by the Governor-in-Executive Committee.

Chapter II : Communications

SHIPPING

The steamship lines at present calling at Barbados are :

From United Kingdom and European Ports

The Harrison Line, the Blue Star Line, the Royal Netherlands Steamship Company and the Compagnie Générale Transatlantique, though the three latter have not established a regular service to the Island.

From Canada

The Canadian National Steamships, and the Alcoa Steamship Company, Incorporated.

From the United States of America

The Alcoa Steamship Company, Incorporated.

From Newfoundland

The Newfoundland railways operate a fleet of small motor vessels of about 325 tons.

From South American Ports

The Booth Line, the Lamport and Holt Line, both of which visit at irregular intervals, and the Flotta Mercante del Estada operating a freight service with the Argentine.

From India and the Far East

The Nourse Line visits periodically.

Inter-Colonial Service

The Compagnie Générale Transatlantique operate an inter-colonial service between the islands of the French Antilles and the Guianas, calling at Barbados, the Windward Islands and Trinidad.

During 1947, 975 vessels with a total tonnage of 1,222,360 tons arrived at the port as compared with 818 vessels of 621,266 tons in 1946. In addition to the above, five British men-of-war, one American naval seaplane tender, 9 yachts and 34 War Department vessels visited Barbados. 615 vessels with a total gross tonnage of 53,054 tons entered the carenage as compared with 620 vessels of 54,341 gross tons in 1946. Of these 108 were steam or motor vessels, the remainder being schooners. The figures show a steady increase in the volume of trade passing through the port.

The number of seamen engaged at the port during the year was 1,060, and 1,053 were discharged. Three were reported as having deserted and one as having died on board from injuries received. The number of seamen engaged at the port to serve in ships going to foreign ports was 617 and of this number 204 were still serving afloat at the end of the year. Approximately 350 men have been recruited for service in tankers owned by the Curaçoesche Petroleum Industrie Maatschappij operating between Curaçao and Lake Maracaibo. Of these 127 were engaged during 1947.

AIR

During 1947 the Director-General of Civil Aviation for the West Indies made Barbados his headquarters.

The number of civil aircraft landing at Seawell Airport during the year was 776 compared with 1,262 in 1946. The large majority of these were the scheduled flights of the British West Indian Airways. The reason for the short-fall was a considerable reduction in the scheduled flights and the fact that no labourers went to the United States of America for work during the year.

Passengers arriving by air numbered 9,354 and 9,765 departed out of totals of 15,217 and 14,774 passengers respectively entering and leaving the Island.

In July a technical survey party was sent to the Caribbean area by the Ministry of Civil Aviation to report on the airfields in the British Colonies.

ROADS

The Department of Highways and Transport was created by the Highways and Transport Act on 1st June, 1945, and took over the duties previously performed by the Central Road Board and the Transport Board. The new department, which is under a Director of Highways and Transport, is responsible for the maintenance of the main highways and controls public transport and road traffic.

The roads over which the Director has authority are set out in a schedule to the Act and new roads may be added by the Governor-in-Executive Committee. The upkeep of the remaining roads is still the responsibility of the Vestry of the parish in which it lies. The Island is approximately 166 square miles of land, all of which is either occupied or closely cultivated, and this comparatively small area is served by 546 miles of road open to traffic, of which 347 are oil-emulsion surfaced. These roads, to a large extent, have been put into good order and are fully capable of serving the somewhat exacting needs of the varied forms of transport common throughout Barbados.

In the main the Department of Highways and Transport controls and maintains the arterial highways radiating from Bridgetown and certain connecting roads, including all the roads in the parishes of St. Michael, St. Andrew and St. Lucy, totalling 294 miles of road, of which 272 are oil-emulsion surfaced.

The department has also been responsible for the maintenance of the runway of Seawell Airport.

As a result of the improved conditions of the road and the absence of difficult gradients, except perhaps in the Scotland area, practically the whole Island is accessible to motor and other traffic. The number of private cars in operation at the end of the year was 2,003, and in addition there were 878 commercial motor vehicles, 13,467 pedal bicycles and a large number of animal-drawn carts. With a population of approximately 1,200 to the square mile the problem of maintaining road communications has to be appreciated rather from the aspect of urban than rural conditions.

The city of Bridgetown and the suburbs are served by omnibuses running at frequent intervals and at moderate fares not exceeding 1½d. per two miles. Omnibuses have their termini in Trafalgar Square or Beckwith Place and depart for the seaside districts, as well as to the more popular residential inland parts of the Island. The country districts are provided with a daily service.

During the war years the omnibus service was particularly congested but the position is gradually being improved as new omnibuses become available. Ninety-eight omnibuses operate in the Island on routes

approved by the Director of Highways and Transport, though they are owned by private owners, numbering sixteen, who receive a concession to run a service. At the moment most of the omnibuses are of an open-side type.

POSTS

The General Post Office is situated in the Public Buildings in Bridgetown and transacts all classes of postal business.

The total revenue and expenditure of the Post Office over the past five years is as follows :

<i>Year</i>	<i>Revenue</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>
	£	£
1943 . . .	44,725	38,437
1944 . . .	63,878	41,608
1945 . . .	73,178	40,421
1946 . . .	85,905	43,652
1947 . . .	103,719	52,306

Thus revenue for 1947 showed an increase of 132 per cent. over that for 1943, while expenditure increase over the same period was 36 per cent. The sudden rise in revenue from 1944 onwards was mainly due to the remittances, on which a premium is payable, from Barbadians who emigrated to the United States of America on war work.

The revenue for 1946 was also increased by the issue on 18th September of the Peace Commemorative stamps, sales of which for philatelic purposes alone are estimated to be £7,000. In this connection it may be mentioned that the sales received considerable impetus by the discovery of a flaw in one of the 1½d. stamps. The rush of sales that followed made it a very profitable error.

The revenue for 1947 has been increased substantially as the result of the greater number of food parcels posted to the United Kingdom.

With the cessation of hostilities in Europe it was anticipated that the number of air-mail letters would have declined in favour of surface mails, but this has not proved to be the case. The proportion of mails which will, in future, be conveyed by air and by sea is still a matter of conjecture and will depend on the resumption of pre-war shipping facilities and a possible reduction in the charges for air conveyance.

The total number of air letters despatched during the year was 697,365 as compared with 658,971 in 1946. These figures compare with the pre-war figure of 49,018 for 1939, but it should be borne in mind that between 1941 and 1945 there was practically no other means of despatch. The number of inland packages of all kinds, including official and registered packages, amounted to 1,870,118 during 1947, compared with 1,842,316 in 1946, an increase of 27,802. The Post Office dealt with 24,783 inland registered letters compared with 31,048 in 1946.

The figures of overseas mails and the comparative figures for 1946 are as follows :

	<i>Despatched</i>		<i>Received</i>	
	1946	1947	1946	1947
Air mail	642,177	677,018	417,732	558,566
Registered	16,794	20,347	41,505	44,732
Total	658,971	697,365	459,237	603,298
Ocean mail	196,865	222,570	349,530	347,541
Registered	7,451	7,690	7,455	8,258
Total	204,316	230,260	356,985	355,799
Grand total	863,287	927,625	816,222	959,097

Towards the end of 1946 the congestion in the Post Office was relieved by the extension of the department into three rooms which during the war had been occupied by the Censor and his staff. Although this extension has helped to alleviate the crowded state of the Post Office it is clear that if the volume of business continues to grow a new and larger Post Office will be a necessity.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

The Island is an important centre for both cable and radio communication, being the junction point of several cables as well as the site of a large modern wireless installation of great range, established by Cable and Wireless, Limited.

External telecommunications services are operated by the Cable and Wireless (West Indies), Limited, controlled by Cable and Wireless, Limited. This company owns and operates cable connections with most of the other important West Indian islands and British Guiana, and through Turks Island and Bermuda to Halifax, where connection is made with the company's North Atlantic cable system to Great Britain and other parts of the world.

The company has also recently established in the Island large long-range wireless installations which, with its previously established wireless coast station, are operated in conjunction with the cable system and provide services with many parts of the world and with a number of other West Indian islands which are not connected by cable. The coast station also provides a service with ships at sea.

The wireless telephone service, which was inaugurated in 1945 in collaboration with the Barbados Telephone Company, Limited, continued to operate with Canada, the United States of America, Jamaica, British Guiana, Trinidad and several of the other West Indian islands. Late in 1946 the service was extended to the United Kingdom and opened when the Acting Governor exchanged greetings with the Postmaster-General in England.

The Western Telegraph Company, Limited, and the Western Union Telegraph Company, also controlled by Cable and Wireless, Limited, have

direct cable communication with Brazil and South America and Miami, respectively.

There is no internal telegraph system. Internal telecommunications are provided by a telephone service serving all parts of the Island and operated by a private company, the Barbados Telephone Company, Limited, which has installed a modern automatic central exchange in Bridgetown and three branch exchanges, one of which is automatic. There are 2,545 exchange lines, 3,237 stations and eight private branch exchanges with a total wire mileage of 11,700.

PUBLIC WORKS

During 1947 the Public Works Department carried out normal maintenance work on Government buildings. In addition a number of alterations and additions were made to existing buildings, particularly buildings taken over by the Government from the military authorities. Repairs and alterations were also carried out to the wharf walls, the Mental Hospital, Lazaretto, various police stations and the Government Industrial Schools at a cost of £19,292.

The more important of the new works undertaken were :

(1) The erection of a new mortuary on the site of the previous mortuary, which had proved inadequate, at the cost of £1,000.

(2) The replacing of the wooden cow byre at the Mental Hospital with a stone building at the cost of £1,625.

(3) The construction for the Mental Hospital of a dining hall, male dormitory, female dormitory, isolation ward, quarters for the Assistant Medical Superintendent, and an extension to the boundary walls commenced in November, at an estimated cost of £32,000. The walls and dormitories were approaching completion at the end of the year.

(4) A sum of £5,131 was voted to convert a building recently bought by the Government into offices for the Chief Medical Officer, the Harbour and Shipping Master, and the Labour Commissioner. The work was almost completed at the end of the year.

(5) At the General Hospital a new Pay Ward was erected and a verandah built on to the Children's Ward at a cost of £3,355. The work was completed in November.

(6) During the year the construction of buildings under a Colonial Development and Welfare scheme for the improvement of livestock, a new cow byre to house thirty cows, a dairy, a bull and calving stalls, pig pens, goat pens, library and office, and quarters for the Livestock Officer, Assistant Livestock Officer and stockmen were completed.

(7) Also under a Colonial Development and Welfare Scheme alterations and renovations were carried out to the main building of the Erdiston Teachers' Training College and the Maternity Hospital.

PART III

Chapter I : Geography and Climate

BARBADOS, the most easterly of the West Indian islands, is situated in latitude $13^{\circ} 4'$ North and longitude $59^{\circ} 37'$ West. In latitude it compares with Madras or the Gambia, but the climate differs from both. The Island is triangular in shape and is 21 miles long by 14 miles across the widest part. It contains approximately 166 square miles, with a population at the end of 1947 of 199,012. It is approximately the size of the Isle of Wight.

Natural and climatic conditions justify the claim of Barbados to be the healthiest of all West Indian islands. The Island is much resorted to by residents in neighbouring Colonies, and a considerable number of visitors from northern climates find it an agreeable change. There is little variation in temperature, the range being generally from 69° to 90° F. and in the cool months—December to May—as low occasionally as 64° . The Island during this time gets the full benefit of the cool north-east trade winds.

“The geological structure of Barbados is extremely simple. It consists of a basement of much-folded sandstones and shales (the Scotland series) covered unconformably by the soft, chalklike rocks of the Oceanic series. Except in the Scotland district, both of these geological series are covered unconformably with a layer of coral limestone which varies in thickness from a thin veneer to 240–260 feet.” *

The Island lies almost out of the track of hurricanes, although it is a matter of history that these have swept over it at far intervals, notably in 1780, 1831 and 1898, doing considerable damage. Earth tremors have been occasionally felt, but severe earthquake shocks have not occurred.

In May 1812 Mount Soufrière on the island of St. Vincent, which is 95 miles to the west of Barbados, erupted, and thousands of tons of dust were deposited on the Colony. The dust is said to have improved the soil of the fields.

In appearance Barbados is peculiarly English. It lacks entirely the restless luxuriance of other tropical islands. Its general aspect is green and undulating, and because the colour of the sugar cane is the same as that of grass, for many months of the year the Barbados landscape recalls the downs of Sussex or the weald of Kent. The plantation houses, set in copses of dark-foliaged trees, increase the similarity.

The Island has many attractions for tourists—yachting, golf, cricket, tennis and some of the finest sea-bathing in the world. The hotels are

* Starkey, *Economic Geography of Barbados*.

good, and most of the clubs are open to visitors. The Island produces fine thoroughbred horses which compete successfully in the race meetings of other islands. The Barbados Turf Club holds three meetings a year. Polo is played, and there are pleasant rides over the countryside, particularly along the "intervals," as the grassy bridle paths through the fields are locally called.

Chapter 2 : History

The original inhabitants of Barbados were the Arawak Indians who migrated probably from the mainland of South America. When they arrived is not known, but relics of their occupation down to the latter years of the sixteenth century have been discovered in various parts of the Island. By the time the English settlers came they had disappeared, partly through Carib raids from the neighbouring islands, and partly through the Spaniards, who deported them to work in the mines of Hispaniola.

The first Europeans to sight Barbados were probably Portuguese, at some time in the sixteenth century. They called it Los Barbados after the bearded fig trees they found there. In 1536 Pedro a Campos visited the Island and left pigs to breed so that wayfarers should not lack food. He found no Indians. The Island was deserted. The Portuguese never claimed possession of the Island and it remained without nationality until, in 1605—according to one doubtful tradition, 1625 is a more likely date—Captain Cataline of the *Olive Blossom*, driven out of his course on a voyage to Guiana, landed on the leeward coast near the modern Holetown and erected a cross and inscribed on a tree nearby "JAMES K OF E AND OF THIS ISLAND." It was not until 1627 that the first settlement was made. In the previous year the King, James I, granted the Island to the Earl of Marlborough, whose protégé, Sir William Courteen, fitted out an expedition commanded by one John Powell. Powell, however, carried letters of marque and, having captured a Spanish prize, returned with it to Cowes in July 1626 without having reached the Island. A second expedition was fitted out, and on 20th February, 1627, the ship *William and John*, commanded by Henry Powell, landed eighty settlers at the spot where Captain Cataline had set up his cross. They called it the Hole, hence the modern name of Holetown.

Meanwhile, in 1623, another nobleman, the Earl of Carlisle, had shown his interest in the West Indies. Under his patronage Thomas Warner had succeeded in establishing in St. Christopher the first settlement in the British West Indian Colonies. In 1627, when Charles I issued Letters Patent to Lord Carlisle granting him proprietary rights over all the "Caribee Islands" Barbados was apparently included. Lord Carlisle bought off Lord Marlborough's interest by settling on him and his heirs an annuity of £300. The wily Courteen who had fitted out the original expedition of 1625, waited until Lord Carlisle was absent from England and induced yet another nobleman, the Earl of Pembroke, to

claim Barbados. Once again Letters Patent were issued, this time granting Barbados and three other islands to Lord Pembroke. When Lord Carlisle returned to England and discovered what had happened, he succeeded in getting himself reinstated. He also took practical steps to secure his possession of the Island by sending out sixty-four new settlers who founded St. Michael's town, on the site of Bridgetown, the present capital. This settlement immediately quarrelled with the older colony and after a fight, the windward men, as the newcomers were called, overcame the leeward men.

In 1636 Lord Carlisle died, leaving his rights in Barbados and the Caribbee Islands in trust for the payment of his debts with remainder to his son, who, in 1647, leased his rights to Lord Willoughby of Parham for twenty-one years. In 1650 Lord Willoughby assumed the Government of Barbados in the name of the King and caused an Act to be passed recognizing the rights of the King, Lord Carlisle and himself; but in 1652 the Island capitulated to a force despatched by the Commonwealth on terms providing for government by a Governor appointed by the Commonwealth. This was the extinction of proprietary rule.

At the Restoration the various claims based or secured on the Carlisle Patent revived, but a return to the proprietary system was strongly opposed by the planters whose titles to land were in many cases defective. After lengthy negotiations a settlement was arrived at, based on the surrender of the Carlisle Patent to the Crown and the compensation of the various claims out of a fixed revenue provided by the Colony in return for the confirmation of local land titles. The financial terms of the settlement were laid down by an Order in Council allocating the future revenue of the Caribbee Islands, that is to say, Barbados and the Leeward Islands, to the satisfaction of the claims, after which it was to revert to the Crown. The revenue itself was provided by a $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. duty on exports which was imposed by Acts passed by the Barbados Legislature in 1663, and by that of the Leeward Islands in 1664. This duty continued in force and was a constant source of grievance to the Colonies until 1838 when it was abolished by an Act of the Imperial Parliament.

Barbados has never changed hands since the date of settlement, but it has had some narrow escapes. In 1665 the Dutch Admiral, de Ruyter, attempted to capture it with a fleet of twenty-five ships of the line, two fire-ships and 2,500 troops. When the news of his approach reached Barbados the British ships were brought in close under the batteries. The Dutch fleet attempted to follow them, but the fire from the English vessels was so destructive that the flagship was disabled and the expedition was forced to withdraw.

During the eighteenth century when the West Indies were involved in the French and American wars, Barbados was liable to attack and was ringed with forts, the crumbling stones and rusting guns of which still remain. In 1782 the Island was saved from occupation only by Rodney's victory in the "Battle of the Saints" on 12th April. Again, in 1805, the forts were manned when it was learned that the French and Spanish fleets had been sighted off St. Lucia, but the arrival of Nelson on board the *Victory*, accompanied by the whole English fleet, restored tranquillity. Nelson's visit to the Island and the gratitude of the inhabitants for their

delivery were commemorated by the erection in 1811 of a bronze statue in Trafalgar Square, overlooking the Bridgetown carenage.*

The first settlers had raised tobacco and cotton. In 1644 certain Dutch sugar planters and traders, expelled from Guiana by the Portuguese, introduced their craft to Barbados. The first mills were worked by cattle, but in 1655 the windmill was introduced. In 1841 the first steam engines were at work and thereafter the windmills declined. The last of them ceased work in 1946.

During the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries Barbados was an island of plenty and prosperity. Many English families settled there, as place-names and memorials bear witness, for instance, Codrington College, Bulkeley and Lascelles Plantations, Drax Hall, Edgcombe and Frere Pilgrim estates. The Council Chamber possesses portraits of the first, second and third Earls of Harewood. The planters were rich and displayed their wealth as was customary at the time, partly by erecting ostentatious monuments by the finest British sculptors of the day. The interior of a Barbados parish church has, therefore, a particularly English look. Many of the memorials are the work of sculptors of Liverpool and Bristol, from which so many of the settlers had come, but there are also examples of the work of Flaxman and Bacon; and the little church of St. George can boast of a memorial by Nollekens on its southern wall, one by Westmacott on its northern wall, and an altar-piece by Benjamin West. Other churches have their interest. It was in a vault in the churchyard of Christ Church that in 1820 there occurred the well-known and mysterious displacement of coffins. The graveyard of St. John's Church contains a memorial to Ferdinando Paleologus, "descended from the Imperial line of the last Christian Emperors of Greece."

During the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries a prosperous Sephardic Jewish community grew up in Barbados. They gradually declined through emigration and assimilation, until in the early years of the century the community disappeared. Their beautifully furnished synagogue was alienated—it is now the headquarters of the Barbados Turf Club and a Political Association—and the graveyard desecrated, many of its memorials being broken. Of recent years a new, Ashkenazi, community of some sixteen families from Europe has grown up.

In 1751 George Washington, then a lad of nineteen, visited Barbados. He caught smallpox, and enjoyed the hospitality of the Beefsteak and Tripe Club. More than one historian has speculated on the possible impression that the Barbados Legislature and its electoral system may have left in the mind of the future Founding Father of the United States.

The devastating hurricane of 1831 put an end to these halcyon days, and the West Indies as a whole were already entering a trough of depression.

Emancipation of the slaves in 1834 caused a great change in the economy of the Island, despite the compensation of £1½ million which the planters received from the British Treasury. It did not for some time greatly amend the status of the slaves. The white minority, the old

* In 1914 Barbados was again exposed to the enemy. The German cruiser *Karlsruhe* was ordered to attack the Island but blew up *en route*.

"plantocracy" still dominated the Island politically, socially and commercially. In 1876 matters came to a head in the so-called Confederation Riots.

A new Governor, John Pope Hennessy, was appointed with instructions to secure from the Legislature consent to certain measures of administrative unification in the Windward group, of which Barbados was the headquarters. One purpose of these proposals, prematurely labelled as "Confederation," was to by-pass the consistent obstructiveness of a Legislature elected by 1,300 voters out of a population of over 160,000; and Barbadian particularism, fearful for the independence of its Legislature, and even more of its Treasury, was up in arms at once. A "Defence Association" was formed among the upper and middle classes to mobilise opposition to the plans of the Colonial Office, and this led to a counter-agitation among the labourers, who supposed that Confederation would benefit them. Hennessy, whose zeal and energy were not supported by good political judgment, had given some encouragement to this belief; and in April 1876 the astonishing spectacle was seen of widespread rioting by negroes who understood that in robbing provision fields, sacking plantation houses, and destroying livestock, they were carrying out the wishes of the representative of the Queen. Hennessy showed promptness, firmness and temperance in suppressing the disturbances, and the casualties were not large—eight killed and thirty odd injured; figures very similar to those in the 1937 disturbances, which preceded the appointment of the Moyne Commission. In neither case was any white person killed.

After Hennessy had been diplomatically transferred to another Government, the extreme political tension in the Island was eased. The Barbadian political system appeared to have emerged from the crisis intact; but, after an attempt to secure for the Government official representation in the House of Assembly had failed, a compromise was reached in the Executive Committee Act of 1881. By this scheme, the Governor was required to call in his Executive Council, four members of the Assembly and one of the Legislative Council, to form an Executive Committee for the discussion and transaction of financial business, and the consideration of legislative measures at large.

In the absence of further acute conflict between the two branches of the Government the plan worked fairly well, until, in quite recent times, an enlarged franchise and a more widely diffused political consciousness exposed its weaknesses. During the late war the failure of the Executive Committee to keep the confidence of the House of Assembly produced a virtual legislative deadlock. The recent experiment, inaugurated in 1946, is an attempt to solve this, by requiring the Governor to ask the person best able to command a majority in the House of Assembly to suggest what members of the House shall sit in the Executive Committee—thus tentatively establishing without any legal alteration in the constitution, something like responsible party government.*

The 'eighties were a period of depression in world trade. From 1885 on, mainly owing to competition from bounty-fed sugar, Barbados was in

* For this, and other developments during and since the war, see Part I, Chapter I, and Part III, Chapter III.

the grip of an agricultural crisis. In 1894 the price of sugar fell to 9s. a hundredweight, and the next year the Bourbon cane, for so long the planters' standby, succumbed to the drought and moth borer. In such circumstances men were less inclined to favour constitutional than economic and social reform. Two measures of constitutional interest—a private member's Bill to retrench by amalgamating the offices of Governor and Colonial Secretary, and a similar Bill to exclude the Auditor-General from the House of Assembly and the Executive Committee—caused a little stir, but did not reach the Statute Book.

In 1896 a Royal Commission was appointed to investigate conditions in the West Indies. It had many important results, although some of these were long delayed. An Imperial Department of Agriculture was set up with headquarters in Barbados in 1898; John R. Bovell, of the local Department of Agriculture, was stimulated in his search for new varieties of cane; in 1902 the sugar bounties were abolished and the Imperial Government made a gift of £250,000 to the West Indies, of which £80,000 fell to Barbados. This amount was at first administered by Commissioners as a loan fund for the benefit of sugar estates, and became, in 1907, the nucleus of the capital of the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank. Meanwhile, the Court of Chancery was working at full pressure. Very few estates were abandoned or cut up and sold in lots, but on all the number of workers and the level of wages were necessarily reduced. With the population at 182,000, or 1,000 to the square mile, and a one-crop economy, this meant not only increased unemployment, but destitution. On top of this came the hurricane of 1898, not causing much loss of life, it is true, but adding greatly to the prevailing distress, especially among the labouring classes.

The price of sugar fell below a dollar a hundredweight. In 1902 there was an epidemic of smallpox. In 1905–6 the Imperial troops were withdrawn, which meant an annual loss of nearly £80,000.

Under this economic pressure the absentee proprietors who, at the time of the visit of the Royal Commission owned one-third of the acreage of the Island, dropped out of the race. They were succeeded by a set of new men who brought a new spirit and new methods of rehabilitation of the sugar industry. The need for economy and efficiency led to the creation of a number of factories controlling groups of estates. Moreover, after 1900 there was a great wave of emigration from among the lower-middle and the labouring classes to the United States and the Panama Canal works. Between 1906 and 1910 the remittances of these emigrants averaged well over £65,000. Several estates were cut up in lots and sold to the returned emigrants or their relatives. By 1913 there were 13,000 peasants who owned lots of five acres and under.

In 1913 the exodus to Panama ceased, but during the 1914–18 war and for some time after there was a boom in sugar, and the prosperity it brought continued until about 1930. It was evident in the improved standard of living. An income tax was instituted in 1921.

By 1930 economic distress was again making itself felt, and in 1937 Barbados had its share of those disturbances which occurred through the West Indies. In that year a Royal Commission was sent to the West

Indies, and from its labours, and the reforms produced, dates yet another period in the social and political development of the Colony.

Chapter 3 : Administration

Barbados possesses representative institutions, but not complete responsible Government. The Crown has only a veto on legislation, but the Secretary of State retains his appointment and control of Public Officers, except the Treasurer, who since 1710 has been nominated by the House of Assembly.

The Legislature consists of the Governor, the Legislative Council, consisting of ten members appointed by His Majesty, and the House of Assembly, consisting of twenty-four members (two for each parish and two for the city of Bridgetown) elected for a period of two years. The House of Assembly was constituted in 1639 and is the oldest colonial legislative body after the Bermuda House of Assembly. In 1944 the income qualification for voters was reduced from £50 to £20 per year, and the franchise was given to females, who also became eligible for election as members.

The executive part of the Government is vested in the Governor and an Executive Council and, in respect of certain matters, an Executive Committee. In actual practice, apart from advising the Governor with regard to the exercise of the Royal prerogative of mercy, nearly all the Executive Council's functions are discharged by the Executive Committee. The Executive Council consists of the Colonial Secretary and the Attorney-General *ex officio*, and of such other persons as His Majesty may appoint. The Executive Committee, which is created by local statute, consists of the Executive Council *ex officio* and of one member of the Legislative Council and four members of the House of Assembly appointed by the Governor at the commencement of each session of the Legislature. The Executive Committee introduces all money votes, prepares the estimates and initiates all Government measures; it is also responsible for the conduct of public works, and the control and management of Government property.

Until 1946 the Attorney-General, who is a full-time Government officer, was expected to stand for election for the House of Assembly and to take charge of Government business in the House of Assembly. In his speech when proroguing the Legislature at the end of 1946 the Governor stated that in future the Officer administering the Government would at the beginning of each session send for the member of the House who in his opinion was best able to command a majority in the House and would invite him to submit the names of four members of the House of Assembly for appointment to Executive Committee. At the same time the permission granted to the Attorney-General to seek election was withdrawn and the responsibility for the conduct of public business in the House of Assembly placed in the hands of those members of Executive Committee appointed from the House.

The Governor has the right to address the Legislature at any time, but this right is usually exercised only at the opening or close of the session. On other occasions the Governor communicates with either Chamber by a Message which is presented to the Chamber by a member of the Executive Committee. Communications from either Chamber to the Governor take the form of an Address which must be approved by a majority vote. The House of Assembly has no standing committee of finance and any application by the Governor-in-Executive Committee to approve expenditure, which is not authorised by an Act or in the annual Estimates of the Colony, must be approved by resolution of the Legislature before expenditure can be incurred.

The Island is administered as one unit except in respect of local government matters, which are in the hands of the Vestries and Parochial Boards of the eleven parishes. The Vestries are elected annually, and each Vestry appoints Commissioners of Highways, Commissioners of Health and Poor Law Guardians for the parish. The two last-named bodies rely for revenue upon grants from the Vestry, but the Commissioners of Highways, who are responsible for the upkeep of all public highways in the parish which are not maintained by the Central Government, collect all vehicle and highway taxes, and, in addition, receive grants-in-aid from the Central Government. The Vestries derive their revenue mainly from taxes on ownership and occupancy of land and houses and trade tax ; the rates for these are fixed annually so as to bring in sufficient revenue to meet the estimated expenditure for the year. The Vestries undertake the repair and maintenance of churches and church buildings and the Rector of each parish is chairman of the Vestry *ex officio*.

The administration of justice in the Island is under the supervision of the Chief Justice, who presides in the several branches of the Supreme Court. These include the Court of Common Pleas, the Court of Chancery, the Court of Ordinary, the Court of Grand Sessions, the Colonial Court of Vice-Admiralty, the Court of Error, the Court of Escheat and the Court of Divorce and Matrimonial Causes. These are superior courts of record and each court has a separate body of rules and orders and docket of fees. The Court of Grand Sessions sits three times a year, in March, July and November, and the other courts as occasion requires.

The inferior courts consist of an Assistant Court of Appeal, a Petty Debt Court for the city of Bridgetown and the magisterial district comprised of District "A," four Petty Debt Courts for the other magisterial districts, and seven Police Magistrates' Courts, three of which are in the city of Bridgetown.

The Assistant Court of Appeal exercises an original jurisdiction in all cases of debt exceeding £20 and not exceeding £50, in personal actions (excepting libel, slander, seduction and breach of promise of marriage) between £10 and £50, an equitable jurisdiction in all cases in which the value of property does not exceed £500, and a jurisdiction in probate matters in which the estate does not exceed £50 in value. It also has an exclusive jurisdiction in all matters under the Workmen's Compensation Act. In its appellate jurisdiction it is a court of rehearing with power to call new witnesses, and hears all appeals from Police Magistrates and Judges of Petty Debt Courts in the Island. There is an appeal from this

Court to the Court of Error or the Court of Chancery in matters in its original jurisdiction on questions of fact as well as law, and an appeal to the Court of Error in cases in its appellate jurisdiction on points of law.

The Petty Debt Courts have jurisdiction in personal actions (with certain specified exceptions) up to £10, and in all actions of debt up to £20.

The Police Magistrates' Courts are courts of summary jurisdiction with power to impose sentences of imprisonment not exceeding twelve months. The Magistrates also take the evidence at preliminary hearings in indictable cases, preside over Lunacy and Licensing Boards, and perform the duties of Coroner in their respective districts.

Chapter 4 : Weights and Measures

The standard of weights and superficial measure is the same as in the United Kingdom, but the local standard measure of capacity is 231 cubic inches to the gallon (known as the wine gallon).

Chapter 5 : Newspapers and Periodicals

<i>Advocate</i>	.	.	.	.	(Daily)
<i>Recorder</i>	.	.	.	.	(Thrice weekly)
<i>Observer</i>	.	.	.	.	(Weekly)
<i>Torch</i>	.	.	.	.	(Weekly)
<i>Beacon</i>	.	.	.	.	(Weekly)
<i>Barbados Commercial Journal</i>	.				(Monthly)
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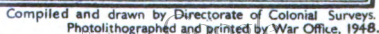
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FOR THE YEAR

PAGE

MAP *At end*

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The cover illustration shows the flying fish fleet

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PART I

Review of 1948

POLITICALLY, 1948 was a year of stalemate and stagnation. Until the General Election in December the Progressive League had 9 seats only in the House of Assembly, so that it was possible for the Electors' Association with 6 seats and the Congress Party with 7 to combine effectively against them. As a result, little work was done. The Public Health Bill, for instance, was before the House for nine months, and it was only at the end of the Session that it came before the Council. They sent it to a committee, which had not reported when the Legislature was dissolved.

In proroguing the Legislature, the Governor made a reference to the constitutional position. He said :

"Although the Session has been drawn out almost to the full extent of its statutory life there is much important business with which you have been unable or unwilling to deal. I say unwilling because on a number of occasions the House of Assembly has not accepted proposals to sit on additional days. I see no hope of any improvement in this connection until the House of Assembly is prepared so to amend its standing orders as to allow of the more rapid despatch of public business, and to reduce the quorum required for the legal constitution of a meeting. My predecessors and I have referred before to the paralysing antiquity of procedure in the House, and a Committee was in fact set up to deal with procedure. I understand that this Committee has not met. Quite apart from the embarrassment which it causes to Executive Committee, by uncertainty as regards the fate, and delay in the passage, of important Government business, the condition of affairs which obtains at the moment must induce a feeling of frustration in the Island as a whole. Let me say again, as I have said before, that when measures are delayed it is neither the Governor nor certain permanent officials who are affected but the people of the country to whom the members of the House of Assembly are responsible for their seats."

His Excellency also referred to the two years working of the so called "Bushe Experiment" (*vide* 1947 Report, page 57). He gave three reasons for believing that the experiment was a success :

"In the first place, the disabilities from which Government suffers are now felt not by a chance collection of individual members of the House, chosen at random or on personal grounds, but by representatives of a party returned by the suffrages of the largest of the three political groups in the country. . . .

"In the second place there is clear evidence of public realisation that in Executive Committee the wishes of the House of Assembly members are given the fullest possible consideration, and that decisions by that body are in the nature of decisions made by a cabinet of the party in power. . . .

"And thirdly, the conduct of Government business in the House—particularly in the case of complicated bills or in Committee of Supply—by a layman, as opposed to a government official, is bringing home to the electors the fact that the government of the country is their government, something which they

put into power and not a creation of the Governor's. It is the electors who are responsible primarily, though of course the ultimate responsibility still lies with me."

The General Election was held on 13th December with the following result :

Progressive League	.	.	12
Electors' Association	.	.	9
Congress Party	.	.	3

Thus, although the League has not a majority, or even parity in the new House since one of its members has been elected Speaker, its position has greatly improved ; and public opinion throughout the country has made it plain that it will not brook the frustrating tactics of the last Session.

In April the Secretary of State announced his approval of the enlargement of the Legislative Council from 10 members to 15. Three new members were appointed at the end of the Session, namely Mr. G. B. Evelyn, the retiring Speaker, Mr. V. C. Gale, M.C.P., and the Lord Bishop. In March, 1949, Mrs. M. Hanschell, M.B.E., was appointed, thus becoming the first woman member of either House. Shortly before, Mrs. E. R. L. Ward, wife of His Honour Mr. Justice Ward, had become the first woman member of a local authority, Christ Church Vestry.

Drought continued to afflict the Island until June. The sugar crop was, in consequence, small, and only 78,226 tons were made. Abundant rains in the latter part of the year produced an exceptionally fine crop, and when reaping started at the beginning of 1949, it was expected that some 150,000 tons of sugar would be produced. During the year payments amounting to \$809,074.95 were made from the Rehabilitation Fund to factory owners and planters, and regulations were made whereby grants from the Labour Welfare Fund might be made to Vestries for the establishment and maintenance of playgrounds, the Vestries Act having been amended to make this possible. It is also proposed to make loans from this fund for the construction and repair of workers' houses. By the end of the year no money had been paid from this fund.

On 25th September a violent flood occurred which did considerable damage to houses in the northern part of the Island, and carried away the main bridge in Speightstown, and another bridge in the locality.

On 30th October, the Central Foundry building in Trafalgar Square was burnt out. Twice before when the site was up for sale the Government failed to acquire it ; on this occasion, it was decided to purchase it, and after negotiation with the owners it was bought for £27,500. This purchase will make it possible to re-design Trafalgar Square in its entirety and to erect on the Central Foundry site a building to house the new Post Office and other departments.

During the earlier part of the year, Mr. G. H. Adams, C.B.E., formerly Financial Secretary of Nyasaland, conducted an enquiry into the salaries and conditions of service of Government officials. His recommendations were considered by a Committee and an attempt was made to give effect to them, by the introduction of a resolution to provide increased salaries,

at the end of the 1948 Session. The House objected to this procedure and the Resolution was not passed. Early in the 1949 Session the Civil Establishment Bill became law, under which Orders fixing salaries and rates of pay can be made by the Governor-in-Executive Committee subject to approval by both Chambers of the Legislature.

The local government is based on the Vestries, which came into being during the 17th century. Each Vestry consists of the Rector of the Parish (in St. Michael's Parish, the Dean of the Cathedral), who is *ex officio* Chairman, and a number of members elected annually. The need for some change in the organisation of local government is generally accepted. Sir John Maude, K.C.B., K.B.E., formerly Secretary to the Ministry of Health and at present Deputy Chairman to the Local Government Boundary Commission, was invited to make a survey of local government in Barbados. He was in the Island from 30th July to 16th October and his report was published early in 1949.

In November, Mr. G. W. Lepper, B.Sc., A.R.C.S., F.G.S., F.Inst.Pet., of the Burma Oil Company, formerly Technical Adviser on Oil Exploration and Development to H.M. Ministry of Fuel and Power, visited the Island to investigate and report on the desirability of vesting in the Crown the mineral rights in petroleum, and on the policy which should be adopted for oil prospecting and development. Mr. Lepper's report was received early in 1949.

In December, Sir Douglas Ritchie, Vice-Chairman, Port of London Authority, came to Barbados to advise on the economic aspects of the deep-water harbour scheme. He left to write his report in January, 1949.

On 20th May, 1948, Sir Hubert Rance, G.C.M.G., G.B.E., former Governor of Burma, arrived as Chairman of the Standing Closer Association Committee.

During the year the following conferences were held in Barbados under the auspices of Colonial Development and Welfare in the West Indies, or the Standing Closer Association Committee :

Working Committee, British Caribbean Oils and Fats	16th-17th January
Import and Exchange Control Conference	2nd-7th February
Prison Officers' Conference	13th April-6th May
Caribbean Radio Managers' Conference	24th-25th June
Working Committee, British Caribbean Oils and Fats	6th-9th August
Standing Closer Association Committee	14th-28th November

Barbados was represented at the Third West Indian Conference in Guadeloupe during the first half of December by the Colonial Secretary, Mr. S. H. Perowne, O.B.E., and the Labour Commissioner, Mr. E. S. S. Burrowes. Mr. Burrowes replaced Mr. W. A. Crawford, M.C.P., who, on account of the General Election, had been able to attend the opening meeting only of the Conference.

The Home Fleet under the command of Vice-Admiral Sir Rhoderick R. McGrigor, K.C.B., D.S.O., Commander-in-Chief, Home Fleet, flying

his flag in H.M.S. *Duke of York*, visited Barbados between 9th October and 18th October.

In January, 1948, an M.C.C. cricket team visited Barbados for the first time since 1935. They opened their tour of the West Indies in Barbados between 6th January and the 27th January. Sir Pelham Warner also visited the Island to witness the matches.

Mr. Grantley Adams, Leader of the House of Assembly, was appointed as Additional United Kingdom Delegate to the meeting of the United Nations which was held in Paris in September. The choice of Mr. Adams to be the sole representative of the Colonial Empire gave great satisfaction not only in Barbados but throughout the Caribbean.

PART II

Chapter I : Population

THE total population of Barbados, according to the West Indian Census counted on 9th April, 1946, was 192,841, of which 85,845 were males and 106,996 were females. The previous count was made in 1931 when the population was given as 156,312 with 62,978 males and 93,334 females, which shows an increase of 36,529 during the fifteen years between the counts.

This population was distributed among Bridgetown and the parishes as follows :

Bridgetown	13,345
St. Michael (excluding Bridgetown)	63,091
Christ Church	24,964
St. George	14,414
St. Philip	14,877
St. John	10,106
St. James	11,300
St. Joseph	7,712
St. Thomas	8,500
St. Andrew	7,582
St. Peter	9,131
St. Lucy	7,819
	192,841

The population has continued to increase since the count in April, 1946, and the figure on 31st December, 1948, is calculated to be 202,669, an increase of 9,828 over the census figures, an average of 3,577 a year, compared with an average annual increase over the years 1921-45 of 2,435.

This figure is calculated as follows :

Population calculated at 31st December, 1947.	199,012
Natural increase—births (6,625) exceeding deaths (3,139) for the year 1948	3,486
Immigration (16,017) exceeding Emigration (15,846) for the year 1948	171
TOTAL	202,669

The density of population is calculated at 1,220 persons to the square mile throughout the Island.

MARRIAGES

There were 881 marriages performed during 1948, a decrease of 174 on the figure for 1947. These figures include marriages performed by Civil Magistrates and twenty of the religious denominations.

The marriage rate per 1,000 of the population was 8.62, a decrease of 1.98 on the 1947 figure.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS

The number of births has increased steadily during the past few years and there has been a slight fluctuation in the illegitimacy rate. The number of deaths, including deaths under five years, have remained about the same. During the year only five deaths were not certified.

The following are the figures for the last five years :

Year	BIRTHS			DEATHS		
	No.	Rate per 1,000	% of Illegiti- mate	No.	Rate per 1,000	% of deaths under Five Years
1944	5,928	29.10	56.91	3,341	16.41	41.21
1945	6,047	28.47	54.55	3,164	14.89	34.38
1946	6,175	31.60	53.74	3,289	16.83	37.00
1947	6,425	32.28	54.48	3,204	16.09	39.86
1948	6,625	32.68	53.00*	3,139	15.48	38.70

* Estimated.

INFANT MORTALITY

Out of the total number of deaths in 1948 (1,394 males and 1,745 females), 989, made up of 503 males and 486 females, were under one year of age.

The infant mortality rates of children under one year per 1,000 live births for the past five years are as follows :

1944	1945	1946	1947	1948
186	150	157	163	149

The chief causes of infant mortality were diarrhoea, enteritis, pneumonia and congenital debility.

IMMIGRATION AND EMIGRATION

In 1948 immigration exceeded emigration by 171. The number of workers (486) who proceeded to the United States of America on short contracts was small compared with the war years.

Chapter 2 : Occupations, Wages and Labour Organisation

OCCUPATIONS

The economy of the island depends almost entirely on the sugar industry and the chief occupation of the people is agricultural work in connection with the cultivation and reaping of sugar. It is estimated that between 20,000 and 25,000 persons (male and female) are engaged primarily in the cultivation side of the industry. The majority of these workers were employed on the sugar estates, but a number have small holdings of their own which they also cultivate. There were, in all, over 30,000 peasant holdings of less than 10 acres on more than a third of which sugar cane was planted.

The year 1947-48 was one of severe drought which resulted in a very poor harvest in the 1948 crop season, the output of sugar and fancy molasses (syrup) being the lowest for a decade and a half. Of the 37 sugar factories in operation during the year, 24 were engaged in sugar manufacture and 13 in syrup. Over 2,000 workers were employed in these factories during the milling season from January to May. A large number of other workers are employed in ancillary occupations connected with the sugar industry, for example, packaging, transportation and shipment, including 500 workers who make puncheons and barrels for the exportation of rum and molasses. It was realised that as a result of the drought the crop season would be short and the period of full employment would be considerably less than in other years. For this reason a committee was set up in February to examine the labour position and to make recommendations for the extension of productive employment, and in particular to study the whole question of seasonal employment, and to make recommendations for promoting full employment in rural areas throughout the year. The committee reported in September and its proposals are receiving the attention of the Government.

Quarrying affords employment for approximately 400 men and there are approximately 1,500 fishermen, about 7,000 seamstresses, 1,500 tailors and 900 shoemakers in the Colony. In the repair of motor vehicles and bicycles about 900 men are employed and there are a substantial number of other workers employed in metal work. About 1,000 men make furniture in small shops. There are about 7,000 builders and the number of workers employed on road construction and repair is approximately 1,000. Approximately 1,800 workers are employed on water transport and 900 on road transport. In the retail trade there are 10,000 workers, two-thirds of whom are women, and in the wholesale trade there are 1,500 workers, most of whom are men. In the public service there are about 2,500 men and 350 women. One of the largest groups of workers in Barbados is that of domestic servants, who number 15,000, including approximately 700 workers in hotels and restaurants; 12,000 of the domestic servants are females. About 850 women are employed in laundries.

The number of able-bodied unskilled men who cannot be fully absorbed in local occupations has been estimated at about 5,000. The number of women in excess of local requirements is approximately the same.

In August recruitment of workers to the United States of America was resumed on a small scale. A period of more than two years had elapsed since the last batch of workers (3,000) were recruited in May, 1946. The workers were engaged direct by private employers and most of the transportation expenses had to be paid by the workers and the Government. The United States Sugar Corporation recruited 206 men, and five employers in Wisconsin took 280. At the end of this year there were 450 still working under the scheme in the United States of America.

In 1948 623 other workers were recruited for employment overseas, 532 went to the Netherland Antilles (316 to Aruba and 216 to Curaçao), for work in connection with oil refineries. The Labour Department also engaged and despatched 91 workers to the Naval Dockyard in Bermuda.

An experimental batch of 25 families (69 persons) emigrated to Surinam under a three-year contract for agricultural work on a sugar estate in that country. Of these, 11 families returned and 14 families (42 persons) remained.

WAGES

At the beginning of 1948 the employers' and workers' organisations were unable to agree on the percentage increase which was to be paid to workers in the sugar industry consequent on the increase in the price of sugar for the 1948 crop. They consented however to the question being decided by arbitration, and the arbitrator awarded a 15 per cent. increase. As a result of this award, cane cutters received 2s. 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per ton of cane cut; and for cultivation work the time rate fixed for men was 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour and for women 6d. per hour.

In the sugar factories and syrup plants the rates of wages continued to be based on the ton of sugar and the puncheons of molasses, and varied with the size and efficiency of the factory. From 1st July, 1948, the out of crop mechanics received a similar increase in their wage rates. The rates now range from 8d. to 1s. 4d. an hour.

Stevedores received an increase of 1s. a day in 1948, their basic wage rate during this year being 16s. a day with time and a half on Sundays and public holidays. Other port workers received increases in their wage rates ranging from 10 per cent. to 15 per cent. over the 1947 rates. These workers included lightermen, produce carters, produce porters, warehouse porters, deck clerks, tally clerks, ships' carpenters, lumber yard porters and carters.

In the foundries, there was a 25 per cent. increase in the wage rates. The new rates ranged from 8d. an hour for a first-year improver to 1s. 7d. an hour for a senior journeyman.

The wages of shop assistants, artisans and domestic servants remained substantially the same as in 1947. Bus drivers and conductors received a 50 per cent. increase in wages, the former receiving 8s. 4d. per day and the latter 7s. 6d. per day.

During the year a Civil Service Commissioner appointed by the Secretary of State reviewed the structure of the Barbados Civil Service and the remuneration and conditions of service of all Government servants and presented his report.

The agreements arrived at by collective bargaining in a large number of work categories were reviewed. The principal changes were provisions for increase in wage rates and the reduction of working hours from 48 hours to 44 hours per week.

COST OF LIVING

A table showing the rise in the cost of living since 1939 is given below :

COST OF LIVING INDEX AT THE END OF 1948

Basis : January–August, 1939 = 100

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1939 .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	100	110	111	111
1940 .	114	112	113	118	122	121	122	122	122	123	122	123
1941 .	124	124	125	128	129	130	130	131	134	136	136	137
1942 .	137	140	142	145	149	152	153	156	161	164	158	158
1943 .	156	164	162	162	163	166	166	166	170	168	168	168
1944 .	168	169	168	175	175	176	182	186	189	185	186	185
1945 .	185	183	183	186	186	186	187	187	191	189	190	194
1946 .	196	196	196	197	200	200	214	212	215	215	220	222
1947 .	228	224	228	228	225	225	223	223	224	226	226	226
1948 .	226	227	228	228	231	231	232	233	235	236	235	236

It will be observed from the table that there was a steady but gradual rise in the cost-of-living figure throughout the year ; the figure at the end of the year being 10 points above that at the end of 1947. The prices of basic foodstuffs such as salted beef, salted pork, salted fish, flour, sugar, fresh and condensed milk, rice, etc., remained substantially the same as in 1947. This food price position was reflected in the food group figure which remained more or less constant throughout the year.

Officials from overseas found the cost of living still very high. The difficulty of obtaining suitable houses for the overseas and local officials continued to be acute during the year. As the year closed, the prospect of certain government military buildings being renovated and converted made the outlook for housing officials somewhat brighter.

LABOUR DEPARTMENT

The Labour Department continued to function with a small staff. Apart from the Labour Commissioner, who is head of the department, there is only one officer, the Labour Inspector, who is not in the general clerical service ; the senior clerk and one of the other clerks, however, carry out certain duties ordinarily performed by labour officers. The branch of the Department which handles savings of Barbadian workers in the United States was in operation throughout the year ; and the six

temporary cane-weighing inspectors were again employed to supervise the weighing of canes at sugar factories during the reaping season. This was the fourth successive season during which these inspectors functioned.

LABOUR ORGANISATION

The services of the Labour Department were continually invoked during the year, and the department was the scene of many Conciliation Board meetings. During the earlier months of the year the determination of revised rates in respect of the several categories of port and other labour was the chief purpose of the greater number of meetings. The Barbados Workers' Union and the Shipping and Mercantile Association continued to be very active in representing the interests of the workers and employers respectively. The Clerks' Union continued to negotiate directly with employers. Neither the Overseers' Association nor the Congress Trade Union, though still registered, were active during the year. The interest of agricultural workers continued to be represented by agricultural trade unions, though the membership of agricultural workers in these unions was not considerable. The relationship between management and labour in the sugar industry was on the whole harmonious, but as the crop was small the workers experienced economic hardships. The 15 per cent. all-round increase in wage rates offset to a marked extent the shortage of work and the managers employed as many workers as possible after the crop.

The atmosphere surrounding negotiations between port labour and the mercantile community was very much more pleasant than that which existed towards the end of 1947, and there were few stoppages of work of any duration.

The Labour Department continued to enjoy the confidence of the workers' and employers' organisations, all of which are young, the oldest and largest being the Barbados Workers' Union registered in 1941. The Congress Trade Union, the Clerks' Union, the Overseers' Association, the Shipping and Mercantile Association and the Sugar Producers' Federation were registered in 1945. The most recent association, that of the Bus Owners, was registered as a trade union in 1947.

LEGISLATION

No new legislation bearing on labour, social or industrial matters was enacted during the year. When the year closed the Factories Act, 1947, was not yet proclaimed. The provisions of regulations to be made under the Act were, however, under active consideration. Steps were taken towards the end of the year in connection with the application of the Imperial Merchant Shipping (International Labour Conventions) Act, 1925, to Barbados by Order-in-Council. When this Act is brought into force it is hoped that there will be considerable improvement in the standard of safety devices used in local factories, but employers are more and more making arrangements for the convenience and comfort of their workers.

Chapter 3 : Public Finance and Taxation

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE

The revenue of the Colony during the financial year 1948-49 amounted to £1,940,467, an increase of £14,054 over the figure of £1,926,413 for the year 1947-48.

The comparative table of revenue figures comparing the two years is as follows :

<i>Head</i>	<i>Revenue</i> 1947-48 £	<i>Revenue</i> 1948-49 £	<i>Difference</i> £
1. Customs	857,391	788,904	- 68,487
2. Port and Harbour Dues	8,077	10,033	+ 1,956
3. Excise	189,501	176,870	- 12,631
4. Government Electrical Inspector	451	640	+ 189
5. Licences	27,165	29,033	+ 1,868
6. Police Tax.	3,719	4,227	+ 508
7. Fees and Fines	7,165	7,099	- 66
8. Fees of Office	5,205	6,355	+ 1,150
9. Post Office	63,101	73,985	+ 10,884
10. Market	1,764	1,700	- 64
11. Reimbursement-in-Aid	24,950	26,693	+ 1,743
12. Interest	12,139	14,550	+ 2,411
13. Special Receipts	48,845	53,823	+ 4,978
14. Waterworks	45,251	59,720	+ 14,469
15. Housing Board	506	500	- 6
16. Taxation	608,523	671,350	+ 62,827
17. General Hospital	9,663	11,688	+ 2,025
18. Currency Note Income	12,996	3,298	- 9,698

Expenditure for 1948-49 amounted to £2,051,626 compared with £1,725,926 in 1947-48, an increase of £325,700.

The comparative figures of expenditure for the years 1947-48 and 1948-49 are set out in the following table :

<i>Head</i>	<i>Expenditure</i> 1947-48 £	<i>Expenditure</i> 1948-49 £	<i>Difference</i> £
1. Governor	5,470	4,985	- 485
2. Colonial Secretary	7,096	8,919	+ 1,823
3. Colonial Treasurer	3,450	3,264	- 186
4. Auditor-General	3,830	4,033	+ 203
5. Harbour Master	11,411	15,095	+ 3,684
6. Customs	23,146	31,437	+ 8,291
7. Powder Magazine	105	107	+ 2
8. Post Office	54,185	59,095	+ 4,910

<i>Head</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>	<i>Difference</i>
	1947-48	1948-49	
	£	£	£
9. Public Markets	4,183	4,333	+ 150
10. Fire Brigade	6,232	5,746	— 486
11. Lighthouses	2,197	2,219	+ 22
12. Registrar	4,277	5,767	+ 1,490
13. Legislature	3,286	3,417	+ 131
14. Legal Departments	23,583	24,861	+ 1,278
15. Police	127,779	126,547	— 1,232
16. Prisons	11,000	14,156	+ 3,156
17. Government Industrial			
Schools	9,872	14,239	+ 4,367
18. Commissioner of Currency	5,481	5,397	— 84
19. Ecclesiastical	14,554	14,625	+ 71
20. Education	211,844	241,610	+ 29,766
21. Science and Agriculture	32,320	38,926	+ 6,606
22. Public Library	4,203	4,400	+ 197
23. Medical Departments	146,452	168,000	+ 21,548
24. Barbados Regiment	6,176	4,190	— 1,986
25. Public Works	27,258	26,148	— 1,110
25A. Public Works Extraordinary	2,308	42	— 2,266
26. Pensions	51,883	66,446	+ 14,563
27. Charges of Debt	32,946	32,946	—
28. Subsidies and Grants	43,647	41,461	— 2,186
29. Miscellaneous Services	522,961	685,017	+ 162,056
30. Income Tax Department	37,561	39,060	+ 1,499
31. Labour Officer	2,512	2,683	+ 171
32. Highways and Transport	136,985	154,136	+ 17,151
33. Airport	2,672	3,497	+ 825
34. Government Electrical			
Inspector	2,766	3,141	+ 375
35. Housing Board	1,204	2,601	+ 1,397
36. Peasants' Loan Bank	985	1,201	+ 216
37. Old Age Pensions	54,384	55,330	+ 946
38. Seawell Plantation	2,103	2,541	+ 438
39. Waterworks	81,414	126,790	+ 45,376
40. Social Welfare	205	241	+ 36
41. Architect and Planning			
Officer	—	2,976	+ 2,976

Under the head "Miscellaneous Services" is included all expenditure on money resolutions passed by the Legislature during the year. Payments were made on an enlarged programme of capital works which do not appear in the Estimates of Expenditure.

It is interesting to compare the revenue and expenditure for 1947-48 and 1948-49 with that of 1938-39 and 1939-40 as follows:

	<i>Revenue</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>
	£	£
1938-39 . . .	528,278	546,274
1939-40 . . .	559,484	560,038
1947-48 . . .	1,926,413	1,725,926
1948-49 . . .	1,940,467	2,051,626

The large expansion in revenue and expenditure compared with pre-war years is due to the fall in the value of money, but also reflects a real improvement in the Colony's financial position and increased services.

PUBLIC DEBT

The Public Debt at 31st December, 1948, was £605,360, the Sinking Fund on that date being £231,168 as compared with £605,360 and £210,112 respectively in 1947.

The position in loans is set out below :

<i>Loan and Amount</i>	<i>Amount out- standing</i>	<i>Sinking Fund at 31st Decem- ber, 1948, at Cost</i>	<i>Date redeemable</i>	<i>Rate of interest</i>
	£	£	£	
Public Loan Act, 1914, and the Reimbursement Act, 1914—£249,000 . . .	37,000	27,792	31,000—1961 6,000—1963	£11,000 at 4% £6,000 at 4½% £20,000 at 5%
General Local Loan Act, 1933, and Public Loans (Redemption) Act, 1933 —£140,920 . . .	140,920	76,819	1964	3½% per annum
Waterworks Loan Act, 1935—£155,500 . . .	155,500	62,262	1961	3% per annum
Education Loan Act, 1935 —£82,890 . . .	82,890	18,932	1966	3½% per annum
Waterworks Loan Act, 1941—£35,400 . . .	35,400	7,678	1966	3½% per annum
Local Loan Act, 1941— £68,000 . . .	68,000	14,748	1966	£67,000 at 3½% £1,000 at 3%
Public Loans (Redemption) Act, 1942—£85,650 . . .	85,650	22,937	1978	3½% per annum
	£605,360	£231,168		

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

The statement of assets and liabilities as at 31st December, 1948, is as follows:

<i>Liabilities</i>	£	s.	d.
Special Funds	357,020	19	8½
Unexpended Balance	27,062	7	4½
Miscellaneous Funds not applicable to General Revenue but included in the Treasury cash	230,974	6	11
Unpaid vouchers	28,437	0	0
Balance at 31st December, 1948	1,313,213	3	7
TOTAL	£1,956,707	17	7
<i>Assets</i>	£	s.	d.
Cash in Treasury	15,215	9	10
Cash in Banks	433,737	5	10½
Due by Crown Agents	882,360	18	7
Advances	147,287	16	4
Due by War Office	1,678	16	1
Due by Ministry of Pensions	2,850	6	10
Sundry Accounts, Government Savings Bank	12,118	13	7
Other accounts receivable	49,302	18	9½
Advances subsequently to be refunded from Loan Funds	42,319	11	8
Barbados Cricket Association (Inc.)	5,000	0	0
Investments—Market value at 31st December, 1948	364,836	0	0
TOTAL	£1,956,707	17	7

MAIN HEADS OF REVENUE

Customs Tariff

Specific rates of duty are imposed whenever practicable though, in view of the Island's dependence upon imported food, the duty on food-stuffs is low, especially on those commodities consumed in large quantities.

The tariff rates were greatly affected by the Canada-West Indies agreement of 1925 which allowed the entry of produce and manufactures from Canada at rates below that of foreign items. Goods manufactured in any part of the British Empire were also included in this preference. The preference was reciprocal and exports from the island have been granted lower rates in Empire markets.

Ad valorem duties range from 6 per cent. preferential to 30 per cent. general, but on most articles the rates are 10 per cent. preferential and 30 per cent. general. All rates, both specific and *ad valorem*, are subject to a surtax of 20 per cent. except those on articles named in the Trade Agreement of 1938 between the United Kingdom and the United States of America. *Ad valorem* duty is assessed on the factory cost of the item.

Exemption from the payment of customs' duties is allowed on machinery and apparatus imported for use in the manufacture of sugar, rum, cotton, tobacco, etc. ; and during 1947 an Act was passed enabling the importation free of duty for a period of three years of articles manufactured from Sea Island cotton grown in the British West Indies. Exemption from duty is also allowed to fresh fruit, firewood, charcoal, coconuts, lemon and lime juice. These items are imported from neighbouring islands, arriving mainly by schooner.

The baggage, personal and household effects of consuls and consular officers and those of public officers in the service of the Crown transferred from any part of the British Empire are admitted duty free.

Excise

Rum is the only article on which an excise duty is levied and this is at the rate of 10s. 7d. per proof wine gallon. In addition there is a distiller's licence of 2d. per gallon on all rums distilled.

Originally rum was made in Barbados by means of pot-stills, usually producing rum at the strength of 40 per cent. overproof. These small stills were established all over the island, but they have now been replaced by patented and modern stills owned by four companies. These factories produce rum at a strength of 66 per cent. over-proof.

Stamp Duties

Stamp duties are imposed under the Stamp Act, 1916, and duty is charged on specified instruments set out in a schedule to the Act. The Registrar is appointed adjudicator to decide the amount of any duty to be charged, with an appeal lying to the Chief Judge of the Court of Common Pleas. In certain cases unstamped or insufficiently stamped instruments may be stamped after execution on payment of the full duty and a penalty of £5. The penalty may be remitted by the Governor-in-Executive Committee.

Stamp duty (6d.) is required on any agreement or memorandum of agreement above a value of £5 except for an agreement of wages or the purchase of goods, wares and merchandise. The rate of stamp duty for appraisements or valuation of property varies from 3d. to £1 depending on the value of the property. The private banks are permitted to issue bank notes on the payment of a licence of £75. The stamp duty on cheques, receipts of £2 or more, and bills of exchange payable on demand is one penny.

Other more important stamp duties are :

	s.	d.
Bonds, for payment of money not exceeding £50	2	6
„ over £50 and not exceeding £100	5	0
„ for each additional £100 or part	2	6
Bond of indemnity	10	0
Transfer of real or personal property depending on value	1	0
	to	2
Deeds not otherwise described, depending on value	5	0
	to	10
		0

	<i>s. d.</i>
Lease at £10-£20 depending on value	2 0
rising to £150-£200	£1 0 0
and for each additional £50 or part	5 0
Marriage licence	2 0
Mortgage, bond, debenture, covenant, bill of sale, judgment obtained or confessed	3 0
Affidavits and other notarial acts	1 0
Life insurance policies	1 0
Power of attorney	2 6
Appointment or discharge of a trustee	10 0

Occupancy Tax

The occupancy tax is a parochial tax levied by parishes on all persons occupying houses. The incidence of the tax varies from parish to parish and is approximately the equivalent of one to two months' rent. The tax is collected by the Parochial Treasurers during the month of April of each year.

Income Tax

The rates of income tax for 1948 are set out in the table below :

	£	<i>s. d.</i>
On every complete pound of taxable income up to	100 at	6
On every complete pound of taxable income beyond :		
£100 and up to 200 „	200 „	1 0
200 „ 400 „	400 „	2 0
400 „ 600 „	600 „	3 0
600 „ 800 „	800 „	4 6
800 „ 1,000 „	1,000 „	5 6
1,000 „ 2,000 „	2,000 „	7 6
2,000 „ 2,500 „	2,500 „	9 0
2,500 „ 5,000 „	5,000 „	11 3
		13 9

Income tax is not paid on incomes below £150 per annum in the case of single individuals and £250 in the case of married persons. Deductions are allowed in respect of children under the age of sixteen years at the rate of £50, and over sixteen years in respect of children receiving full-time instruction at any university, college or school. A maximum of £40 is allowed in respect of any other dependent, and deductions are permitted for life insurances not exceeding one-sixth of the total income or 7 per cent. of the actual capital sum assured.

During 1948 an Act was passed by the Legislature designed to give relief from double taxation.

The income tax on companies is fixed at a flat rate of 6s. 8d. on every pound of assessable income ; for insurance companies it is based on the net profit for the year preceding the year of assessment.

Estate Duty

Death duty is payable under the Estate and Succession Duties Act, 1941, and the scale is set out in the table below :

Exceeds	£	and does not exceed	£	rate	%
	500		2,000	.	$\frac{1}{2}$
"	2,000	"	5,000	.	1
"	5,000	"	10,000	.	$1\frac{1}{2}$
"	10,000	"	15,000	.	2
"	15,000	"	20,000	.	$2\frac{1}{2}$
"	20,000	"	30,000	.	3
"	30,000	"	40,000	.	$3\frac{1}{2}$
"	40,000	"	50,000	.	4
"	50,000	"	60,000	.	$4\frac{1}{2}$
"	60,000	"	70,000	.	5
"	70,000	"	80,000	.	$5\frac{1}{2}$
"	80,000	"	90,000	.	6
"	90,000	"	100,000	.	$6\frac{1}{2}$
"	100,000	"	125,000	.	7
"	125,000	"	150,000	.	$7\frac{1}{2}$
"	150,000	"	175,000	.	8
"	175,000	"	200,000	.	$8\frac{1}{2}$
"	200,000	"	225,000	.	9
"	225,000	"	250,000	.	$9\frac{1}{2}$
"	250,000	.	.	.	10

Relief in the case of quick successions is allowed at the following rates :

	%
Where the second death occurs within one year of the first death .	75
" " " " " " two years of the first death .	60
" " " " " " three years of the first death .	45
" " " " " " four years of the first death .	30
" " " " " " five years of the first death .	15

Other Taxation

The other principal heads of taxation are the package tax, tax on motor spirit and diesel fuel used in road vehicles and the police tax.

The yield from these taxes in 1947-48 compared with 1946-47 are as follows :

Tax	1946-47	1947-48	Difference
	£	£	£
Package tax	40,273	36,772	-3,501
Tax on motor spirit, etc. .	109,782	110,586	+ 804
Police tax	4,209	3,719	- 490

The package tax is a tax levied on the authority of the Package Tax Act, 1941, by which a levy of 6*d.* is made for every parcel of goods, wares and merchandise imported into the island or taken out of bond for con-

sumption in the island. There are certain exemptions. Goods and merchandise arriving in bulk are also subject to package tax in accordance with a schedule which sets out the amount of the article that is deemed to be a package, for example, every 5 cwt. of machinery is considered one package and every 500 superficial feet of one inch thickness or less of timber. This tax is collected by the Customs authority in the usual way, or if the package arrives by post, by the Post Office.

The tax on motor spirit is at the rate of one penny per gallon and is collected from the importer who recovers from the consumer by the increased price of one penny on the purchase of a gallon of petrol.

The authority for the police tax is contained in the Police Act, 1891. It is in effect a rate levied on landowners. The rate of tax is 8*d.* per acre and 2*d.* in the pound of the annual rent of houses, but not on both rent and land. The tax is collected by Parochial Treasurers but paid into the Public Treasury.

Chapter 4 : Currency and Banking

CURRENCY

No important change or development in currency took place during the year. A West Indian Currency Conference, under the Chairmanship of the Comptroller for Development and Welfare in the West Indies, was held in Barbados in May, 1946, and recommended the establishment of a Regional Currency Board and the unification of the currency of the Eastern Group of the West Indies, but the final details have not yet been settled.

Government currency notes of the denominations of \$1.00, \$2.00, \$5.00, \$20.00 and \$100.00 are in circulation and are legal tender in British Guiana and Trinidad, as are the notes of those Colonies in Barbados. The private banks also issue \$5.00, \$20.00 and \$100.00 notes although the issue of these notes has been restricted.

The accounts of the Government are kept in sterling while those of the commercial houses are in dollars and cents. As from 1st April, 1949, it is proposed to keep the accounts of Government in dollars and cents. British coin is legal tender and the chief medium of circulation. The British West Indies dollar is fixed at 4*s.* 2*d.*, that is \$4.80 to £1 sterling.

The total issue of Government currency notes amounts to £449,591 13*s.* 4*d.* in the following denominations and amounts :

	\$	£	s.	d.
663,263 notes at	1.00 . .	138,179	15	10
67,291 " "	2.00 . .	28,037	18	4
216,463 " "	5.00 . .	225,482	5	10
6,849 " "	20.00 . .	28,537	10	0
1,409 " "	100.00 . .	29,354	3	4
		449,591	13	4

Towards the end of the year some cupro-nickel coins found their way into the Island presumably brought in by visitors from the United Kingdom. They have met with a mixed reception since the public, especially in the rural areas, regard them as spurious.

BANKING

Private Banks

There are three overseas private banks operating in the Colony—Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas), the Royal Bank of Canada and the Canadian Bank of Commerce. The paid-up capital of each is respectively £4,975,500, \$35,000,000 and \$40,000,000, and the head offices are in London, Montreal and Toronto.

The Government Savings Bank

In addition to the private banks there is a Government Savings Bank, in which, at the end of June, 1948, there were 36,883 depositors, 13 more than in the previous year; the total sum to their credit was £2,021,569, a decrease of £80,277 compared with the previous year. There has been a steady increase in the use of the bank in recent years; since 1939 the number of depositors has doubled, the total sum to their credit has risen from £938,902 to £2,021,569, and the value of invested funds from £1,069,663 to £2,384,958. The rate of interest paid on deposits is 3 per cent. and since April, 1933, there has been a limit of £300 on new deposits.

The Peasants' Loan Bank

The Peasants' Loan Bank was established in 1937 with a capital of £10,000 to be advanced from the Public Treasury as the bank from time to time might require. The objects of the bank are to make loans for various agricultural purposes such as irrigation, the purchase of livestock and manures, to enable the peasant proprietors to bring back into cultivation holdings abandoned through lack of capital. A peasant proprietor is defined as one who owns 10 acres or less. The bank is constituted a body corporate. It is controlled by a Board of Directors consisting of five members appointed as follows: the Director of Agriculture appointed by the Governor, one member appointed sessionally by the Legislative Council, two members appointed sessionally by the House of Assembly and one member appointed by the Agricultural Society of the Island. The accounts of the bank are audited by the Auditor General, and a copy of his report is forwarded to the Governor and published in the *Official Gazette*. During 1948 loans amounting to £5,377 were advanced to 435 persons, compared with loans of £4,314 to 446 persons during 1947.

The Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank

The Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank was established in 1907 and founded on a grant of £80,000 made by the Imperial Treasury in order to assist the sugar industry of the Colony. The Sugar Industry Agricul-

tural Bank Act, 1907, was replaced by the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank Act of 1943 in order that the usefulness of the money available might be extended to make loans for the carrying on of the management of sugar factories in the same way as the previous Act authorised loans for sugar plantations and sugar cultivation.

The net profit of the Bank for the financial year 1947-48 * amounted to £2,910 as compared with £2,465 in the previous year. The capital of the Bank at the end of June, 1948, was £283,154.

The Barbados Co-operative Bank Limited

The Barbados Co-operative Bank Limited is a privately owned bank incorporated in 1938, with a registered capital of £50,000. During the financial year ending on 28th February, 1948, there were 16,912 depositors in the savings branch, and the balance to the credit of depositors was £66,682. The Bank has a scheme of loans to enable persons to purchase their homes and during the year £128,540 was advanced.

Chapter 5 : Commerce

IMPORTS

The trade figures for the year 1948 showed a decrease in the total value of imports as compared with the previous year. The figures for 1948 were £6,346,230 compared with £7,124,930 in 1947. This was mainly due to the restrictions imposed on imports to meet the dollar crisis. The main decreases were in respect of motor cars and trucks, lumber, artificial silk piece-goods, boots and shoes, cotton piece-goods, apparel, hardware, beer, ale, stout and porter.

Values and quantities of the main items for 1947 and 1948 are set out below :

<i>Item and Unit</i>	1947		1948	
	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Value</i> £	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Value</i> £
Beer, Ale, etc., gals.	366,878	91,719	186,379	71,319
Animal Foods, lb.. . . .	18,310,786	174,650	19,130,547	200,132
Rice, lb.	13,431,561	161,179	14,792,018	177,504
Flour, lb.	23,452,772	418,799	24,674,636	453,208
Pork Salted, lb.	3,517,640	140,705	3,361,867	134,475
Milk, lb.	1,924,978	86,624	1,685,010	84,251
Lumber, ft.	11,605,384	302,594	5,610,489	142,891
Cotton Piece-goods, sq. yd.	2,620,248	308,322	2,171,216	272,635
Art. Silk Piece-goods, sq. yd.	1,151,112	234,033	913,360	158,103
Hardware	—	166,890	—	188,116
Machinery	—	278,947	—	292,511
Motor Cars and Trucks, no.	961	378,067	588	213,305
Boots and Shoes, pairs	232,199	152,441	164,456	98,235
Iron and Steel Manufactures	—	165,106	—	152,568

* The year ends on 30th June.

An analysis of the sources of the imports showed increases in the values from the principal sterling areas, and decreases from the dollar areas.

The value of goods from the United Kingdom rose from £1,911,389 in 1947* to £2,489,611 in 1948, an increase of £578,222. This increase was due partly to the deflection of trade from the dollar to the sterling areas and to increased prices. Included in the imports were iron and steel manufactures and hardware.

Imports from Australia amounted to £144,652, a substantial increase over the 1947 figure, which was £23,562. The main items were butter, cheese and fresh meat.

The value of imports from Canada showed a decrease of £823,063; the figures were £2,493,667 in 1947 and £1,670,604 in 1948. The main import from Canada, flour, was not affected by the decrease, a greater quantity being imported during 1948.

Imports from the United States of America showed a decline from £1,387,102 in 1947 to £774,190 in 1948, a decrease of £612,912. This was due not to reduction in prices but to smaller importations resulting from import restrictions.

The amount of rice available from British Guiana was not enough to meet local requirements and an additional supply of 534 tons, value £14,357, was obtained from Brazil and sold at the same subsidised retail price of 6 c. per lb. as that imported from British Guiana.

EXPORTS

The total value of exports, excluding the transit trade, was £3,048,165, which was a decrease of £666,942 on the 1947 figure of £3,715,107. The decrease was due chiefly to the smaller sugar crop (and to the smaller quantities of goods exported).

The following are comparative figures of the quantities and values of the main items of export:

<i>Item and Unit</i>	1947		1948	
	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Value</i> £	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Value</i> £
Sugar, tons . . .	82,461	1,879,255	49,652	1,202,220
Molasses, gallons . . .	7,887,440	1,147,279	6,560,630	1,052,170
Rum, gallons . . .	1,467,654	343,703	830,948	373,926
Soap, lb.	806,430	31,214	598,430	29,672
Margarine, lb. . . .	300,350	19,596	342,412	25,681
Edible Oil, gallons . .	52,755	15,387	49,365	16,660
Cotton Lint, lb. . . .	14,214	1,738	12,084	2,115

The main decreases were sugar to United Kingdom £353,422; to Canada £364,150; molasses to Newfoundland £12,363; to other countries £80,185; rum to United Kingdom £87,655.

* The value of imports for 1947 from the United Kingdom, Canada and the United States were wrongly given in the Annual Report for 1947.

There were increases in the case of sugar to other countries £40,537 ; rum to Canada £19,498, to other countries £100,352 ; margarine to other countries £6,085.

GENERAL

The prosperity of the island centres on the sugar crop and the prices that can be obtained for sugar and other products arising from the industry. The year 1947 was a year of drought, which resulted in a short crop. This is reflected in the smaller tonnage of sugar exported.

The large importation of foodstuffs and lumber is essential in an island with such a large population to the square mile, based on a sugar economy and lacking the space in which to grow adequate food crops. Although ground provisions are produced it is not possible for climatic reasons to produce the items which constitute the staple diet of the people—flour, rice and salted pork. The island has no natural resources of timber so that reliance is placed on imported supplies of lumber, used for building purposes. Machinery is necessary for the rehabilitation of the sugar industry.

The visible adverse balance of trade, £6,346,230 imports against £3,048,165 exports, is £3,298,065. Such an adverse balance has been an invariable feature of the trade of the island and is in part offset by interest received on capital investments abroad, remittances from Barbadians who have settled overseas, and by the tourist traffic.

The value of trade for the post-war compared with the pre-war period indicates not only the increased prices of commodities, but indicates great advances in the standards of living of the people.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Imports</i>	<i>Exports</i>
1937 . .	2,220,650	1,498,341
1938 . .	2,086,901	1,218,379
1946 . .	4,992,492	3,142,164
1947 . .	7,124,930	3,715,107

This steady increase in trade was curtailed by the institution of restrictions on imports to meet the dollar crisis and is reflected in the trade figures for 1948.

Chapter 6 : Production

Barbados contains an area of about 106,500 acres, of which 88,597 acres are stated in the 1946 Census Report to be occupied by 4,881 farms of one acre and over. The land in these farms is divided as follows : cultivated, 59,043 acres ; other cultivable, 2,150 acres ; pasture, 17,594

acres ; woodland, 1,510 acres, and other land, 8,300 acres. The area under irrigation from wells is 471 acres.

All arable land has been farmed as plantations for generations and has been owned by the occupiers or worked by local attorneys on behalf of absentee proprietors. Plantations vary in size from 10 to 500 acres. During the past thirty to forty years a number of these plantations have been cut up into small holdings and sold to peasants. The number of small plots of under one acre is given as 26,415. Methods of tenure are by complete purchase, incomplete purchase, under will, heir-at-law, as agent for owner abroad, or for deceased owner and otherwise.

SUGAR CANE

Sugar cane is grown as the principal crop on all plantations and on nearly all peasant holdings. In 1948 there were 32,786 acres of cane reaped by plantations and an estimated 7,700 acres by small-holders, making a total of 40,486 acres. The actual production of sugar was the equivalent of 78,226.4 tons made up as follows :

Vacuum Pan Sugars.	.	.	56,496.4	tons
Muscovado	.	.	1,262.1	„
Fancy Molasses	.	.	20,467.9	„
				78,226.4
				„

This represents a decrease of 33,005.9 tons of sugar as compared with the 1947 output and was due to the abnormally low rainfall during the period August to December, 1947. Voluntary returns submitted for 89 per cent. of the total acreage in canes harvested in 1948 showed that the yield of plant canes and ratoons was 13.92 tons per acre in the Low Rainfall Category ; 17.48 tons per acre in the Intermediate Rainfall Category and 24.51 tons per acre in the High Rainfall Category. There were no strikes, either in the field or factory, to interfere with reaping or grinding operations.

No new vacuum pan factories for sugar manufacture have been erected since 1939. On the contrary, since 1939 seven have ceased to function. During 1948 there were 24 vacuum pan factories, two muscovado factories and 12 fancy molasses steam-driven plants engaged in the manufacture of sugars and molasses.

COTTON

There were 137 acres of Sea Island cotton reaped in 1948 which produced 49,399 lb. seed cotton, which yielded 12,552 lb. lint. The lint was exported and the seed ground locally, the extracted oil being used as a cooking oil and the residue as a stock feed.

MAIN EXPORTABLE PRODUCTS

The main exportable products of the island are dark crystal sugar, muscovado sugar, fancy molasses, choice molasses, vacuum pan molasses and rum which are all products of the sugar cane. Sugars of all grades exported in 1948 amounted to 49,652 tons ; it is estimated that 7,000 tons were consumed locally. Exports of choice molasses, which is a by-product of muscovado sugar manufacture, totalled 143,461 wine gallons ; fancy molasses, 6,414,079 wine gallons ; and bottoms, 3,090 wine gallons.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

The stud centres at the six District Agricultural Stations that were established with Colonial Development and Welfare funds have continued to play an important part in improving the quality of the colony's live-stock. The number of services paid for at the six stations during the calendar year 1948 was : bulls, 1,653 ; buck goats, 1,424 ; ram sheep, 584 and boar pigs, 882. In addition, 215 weaner pigs and 14 calves have been raised and sold to peasants and planters.

The stations have been used, too, as centres for the judging rings which have been organised by the Peasant Agricultural Instructors as a means of teaching the young people better animal husbandry. The judging rings have been very popular.

An up-to-date Central Dairying and Stockbreeding Station has been established on Government lands at the Pine Plantation where dairying in all its aspects is being investigated and the possibilities of developing an economic system of animal husbandry explored. Special emphasis will be laid on dairying as an auxiliary to sugar production. This farm is also being utilised as a centre for the improvement of the island's stock of horses, milch goats, pigs and poultry.

FORESTRY

The only part of Barbados where the old original forest covering of the island still exists is Turner's Hall Wood which occupies an area of about 46 acres. This wood is preserved by statute.

The island is dependent on imports of timber from the United States of America and from Canada whence large quantities of pitch pine, deal, spruce, fir, etc., are imported. Some supplies of timber are also obtained from British Guiana. The bagasse of crushed sugar cane furnishes a supply of fuel for the sugar factories while firewood and charcoal for household purposes are imported from British Guiana and the neighbouring islands.

With the object of promoting local afforestation, over 261,000 trees—mainly casuarina—have been distributed within the past seven years, and, although it is not possible to say what proportion of these have been established, several small plantations have sprung into existence, notably at Dover, Christ Church ; Claybury and Bath, St. John ; Mt. Brevitor and Alleynedale, St. Peter ; Walkers, St. Andrew ; Walkes Spring, St. Thomas ; and Belle, St. Michael. There are also about four acres

of land planted in casuarinas, spaced 10 feet apart, at St. Ann's Fort and at Needham's Point.

Schemes have also been drawn up for the establishment of a casuarina plantation at Walkers, St. Andrew, and the rehabilitation of denuded areas in the Scotland district. These casuarinas will be used to augment the supplies of firewood.

FISHERIES

With the object of improving the fishing industry, schemes financed under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act and from local Government funds are being implemented. A Fisheries Branch of the Department of Science and Agriculture was established in 1944 and the necessary staff was appointed. An Advisory Fisheries Committee advises the Director of Agriculture on fishery matters.

Schemes which are being operated provide for the maintenance, expansion and development of fisheries production and for marketing and distribution of fish. A fish market has been erected at Oistins and Speightstown. Successful blasting operations to remove obstructing reefs and to facilitate the passage of fishing boats here, have been carried out at Conset's Channel (St. John), Martin's Bay Channel (St. John), Tent Bay (Bathsheba), Meg's Channel (St. Philip) and Crab Hill Bay (St. Lucy). "Hauling-up" gear has been placed at eight different points along the coast for use in cases of emergency. Beach shelters are being erected at strategic points; three of these sheds have already been completed.

An experimental fisheries boat is being constructed and will be operated from a proposed experimental station. Among other things, improved methods of fishing, the introduction of "new" types of fishing gear, improvements in the design of fishing boats, and methods of curing and preserving fish under local conditions, will be investigated.

The Fishing Industry Control Act, 1947, was passed by the Legislature to provide for the compulsory registration of all fishing boats.

A loan scheme financed by local Government funds has been in operation since 1943. Under the provisions of the scheme loans are now granted for the building and repair of boats, the purchase of new sail, rope, fishing tackle, etc., on the application of persons who, in the opinion of the Advisory Fisheries Committee, are unable to contribute the entire cost themselves and are dependent on the fishing industry for a living. These loans are interest-free for the first year and after this period has elapsed are subject to interest at the rate of 3 per cent. per annum. It is estimated that as a result of this scheme, the fishing fleet has been augmented by 141 new boats. Altogether 920 loans have been approved for the construction of new boats and repairs to others. Up to the end of 1948, the total sum approved as loans was £15,348 1s. 4d., the total sum actually loaned £13,851 13s. 5d., and the total sum repaid £6,552 7s. 2d.

VALUE OF GOODS AND SERVICES

Dr. Frederic Benham, B.Sc. (Econ.), who prepared a report on the national income of Barbados for 1942, placed the value of the exports of

domestic produce at £1,950,000, the retail value of foodstuffs for local consumption at £630,000, and that of manufactures, public utility services, etc., for local consumption at £1,030,000. The net value of all goods and services produced in Barbados in 1942 was about £5,211,000 plus £374,000 net income from abroad, or £5,600,000 in round figures.

See the Barbados Annual Report 1947 for an Appendix under this chapter dealing with the work of the late Mr. J. R. Bovell in relation to sugar cane breeding.

Chapter 7 : Social Services

EDUCATION

Elementary Schools

There are 124 elementary schools which are entirely maintained by Government funds, supplemented by a grant of £1,025 contributed by the 11 Vestries of the Island towards the upkeep of the school buildings, most of which are owned by the Government, although some still remain vested in the Church and Vestry. The schools are divided into boys', girls', and senior and junior co-educational. There are 14,783 boys and 14,199 girls on the roll. The school-leaving age is 14 years. The school inspectorate consists of two District Inspectors, an Inspector of Handicrafts, an Inspector of Domestic Subjects and an Inspector of Infants' Methods. There is a nutrition scheme which provides a mid-morning snack of milk and biscuits for each child.

Secondary Schools

There are 11 secondary schools—three first-grade and eight second-grade.

The three first-grade secondary schools with an attendance of 755 boys and 365 girls are Harrison College (boys), Queen's College (girls), both day schools situated in the Bridgetown area; and the Lodge School, in the parish of St. John, a day school for boys which also has a boarding establishment attached. These schools prepare pupils for the School and Higher Certificates of the Oxford and Cambridge Schools Examination Board. The other eight schools, consisting of four boys', three girls' and one co-educational, are scattered throughout the island, with an attendance of 1,008 boys and 613 girls. The pupils of these eight schools enter for the School Certificate Examination of the Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate.

Private Schools

In addition to the public elementary and Government-aided secondary schools, there are many well-run private schools for both boys and girls, which also enter candidates for the School Certificate Examination of the Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate. The Codrington High

School in the parish of St. John and the Convent of the Sacred Heart in the parish of St. Michael are both day and boarding schools. The pupils of the Codrington High School enter for the School and Higher Certificate Examinations of the Oxford and Cambridge Schools Examination Board. There is at present no supervision of these schools by the Government.

The educational administration of the public elementary and Government-aided secondary schools is the responsibility of the Director of Education who is assisted by one Assistant Director and an advisory board appointed by the Governor. There still remains a system of local committees of managers of elementary schools, who advise on local school problems, such as necessary repairs to buildings, and assist in the final selection of staffs. The secondary schools have governing bodies for the purpose of administration.

Exhibitions and Scholarships

Exhibitions are provided for boys and girls to both first- and second-grade secondary schools from Government and Vestry funds. Two Island Scholarships, each valued at £70 per annum, tenable at Codrington College for three years, are awarded annually on the results of a special examination set by the Principal of the College. An annual scholarship known as the "Barbados Scholarship" is awarded on the results of the Oxford and Cambridge Higher Certificate Examination and is valued at approximately £1,000 plus passage expenses to the United Kingdom, and a cost-of-living allowance.

Training of Teachers

The first group of students went into residence at Erdiston College on 19th January, 1948, although the model school for practice teaching was not then quite ready for use. On the completion of this building the College was officially declared open by His Excellency the Governor on 4th November, 1948. The College has accommodation for 16 men and 16 women who receive instruction in modern methods of teaching. It has a staff of principal, vice-principal, woman tutor and visiting instructors for specialised subjects.

In addition classes in art are held on Saturdays during term time and Easter vacation refresher courses are well attended. Courses in physical training, domestic science, handicrafts, school administration, intelligence testing and certain academic subjects are offered.

Teachers' Examinations

Elementary school teachers are required to take two examinations—Certificates B and A.

- (i) Certificate B includes academic work up to the School Certificate standard together with school method and the principles of education.

- (ii) Certificate A is awarded on the results of work executed by teachers in connection with their school duties. The practical work involved is inspected by the officers of the Education Department who also examine the theses submitted by candidates at the conclusion of the project.

The Certificate of Erdiston College is awarded to the selected teachers who successfully completed one year's training course while in residence at the College.

Adult Education

The Barbados Evening Institute opened its doors in September, 1948, and students were offered classes in academic subjects up to Matriculation standard, commercial classes and courses in domestic science, building and architecture, motor mechanics and electricity. A Principal has been appointed to the Institute to be responsible for all classes, which have lecturers provided and paid by the Department of Education. These classes include those previously organised at the Housecraft Centre and the Girls' Industrial Union.

In addition the Association of Cultural Societies organises lectures and courses in cultural subjects and these are subsidised by the Department of Education.

University Education

Codrington College, founded in 1710, under the will of General Christopher Codrington, who was born in Barbados, is under the control of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, and is affiliated to Durham University. It admits candidates to general, classical and theological degrees of that University.

Visual Education

The Mobile Cinema Unit still continues operations in the rural and suburban districts of the island. The programmes comprise news reels from the Central Office of Information, health films from the local Medical Department, educational and general interest films, supplied in part by the local organisation of the British Council. One hundred and eighty-two performances were given during the year and the reaction of the audiences to all programmes has been gratifying.

The scope of visual aids in the schools has been extended. Teachers have been advised on the preparation and use of pictures, diagrams and models. Students at Erdiston College receive lectures on visual education. A mobile unit has been organised to provide film-strip lessons in the elementary schools and teachers in the schools are being trained to use the apparatus. The film-strip lessons deal mainly with geographical, historical, health, nutrition and nursery rhyme subjects and 251 lessons have been given during the year.

Vocational Education

There are no technical schools in the Colony. Some technical training is provided by the Board of Industrial Training under the Apprenticeship Bursaries Act, 1928. In this system the training is confined to placing the apprentices under master workmen who give them a five-year course and present them for examination at the end of each year. The Director of Education is a member of the Board. The whole system of vocational education is now under review by a committee appointed by His Excellency the Governor, and it is expected that recommendations will be submitted for a more advanced form of technical and vocational education. Cooking classes, laundry work and general housewifery are carried out in most of the girls' schools in the island, and a number of the schools have moderately well-equipped kitchens in which the senior girls are given three-year courses in general domestic science. These classes are conducted by teachers trained at the Housecraft Centre.

The classes at the Housecraft Centre are well attended. The officer in charge, who is a qualified nutritionist, is attached to the Department of Education. Here the organisation of the domestic science curriculum for the island is planned. At the same time classes are given to those teachers in the schools who are responsible for the teaching of domestic science in their schools.

Evening classes in commercial and certain technical subjects are offered by the Barbados Evening Institute.

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

The British Council

The British Council first sent a representative to Barbados in 1945 and since then has continued to promote interest in cultural activities of the island. A number of exhibitions, including displays of photographs, were held which were well attended. In addition, the British Council did much in providing periodicals to local schools and societies and in supplying books for the libraries of secondary schools and in collecting reference books on social and technical subjects.

A 16-mm. film projector was used to give cinema shows to schools and the general public of documentary films of the British way of life, and educational films of scientific interest. Films were also loaned to the Government Mobile Cinema Van. A close co-operation was maintained with the Museum and an epidiascope provided for giving classes to school children which are very well attended and appreciated. Pictures were also lent to schools and the Public Library, and these were changed periodically to give variety.

A library of good and representative music has been built up and scores are lent to choirs and musical societies, as are selections from the library of gramophone records.

The Museum and Historical Society

The Barbados Museum and Historical Society was incorporated by a special Act of the Legislature in 1933. The Government gave the Society a lease, for 90 years, of the old abandoned Military Prison. Their Museum is one of the best in the West Indies. The work began in 1933 with the aid of a grant of £1,500 from the Carnegie Corporation of New York and smaller grants from the Barbados Government. About £5,000 has been spent on buildings to house the collections of books, pictures, models, specimens of birds and fishes. There is also an excellent collection of pottery, axe heads, etc., derived from the original Arawaks of the Island and a fine collection of Carib stone implements. A great deal of interesting material of this kind lies buried in those districts which were inhabited by the Arawak Indians and awaits the time when someone will be available to unearth it. A recent development, the Children's Museum, continued to be a great attraction and special visits for school children were arranged. The Society publishes a quarterly journal which is now in its fifteenth volume.

The services of a full-time curator have been obtained and the candidate is at present undergoing a course of museum training in the United Kingdom prior to taking up his appointment.

Public Library

There is a free Public Library in Bridgetown. It was established under Government control in 1847 and is supported by public funds. From the beginning of the century the Library has been housed in a building donated by Mr. Andrew Carnegie, but as the existing accommodation is proving inadequate for the rapidly expanding library services, extensions to the buildings are under consideration.

The Public Library continued its programme of extension into the rural areas and has now established four library deposit stations along with the branch in Speightstown from which the public may borrow books. Such extension was preceded by a rural demonstration, for which a mobile unit was used. This demonstration proved how eager the country folk were for reading matter.

The Library dates its foundation from the passing of the first Public Library Act on 21st October, 1847. It is worthy of note that a similar Act did not become law in the United Kingdom until almost three years later.

During the year, under the terms of a British Council studentship, a member of the Library staff was afforded training at the Regional Library (British Council) in Trinidad. There are now five such trained persons on the staff.

Association of Cultural Societies

An Association of Cultural Societies was formed towards the end of 1947 and a number of societies have become affiliated members. The

Association assists the cultural societies and clubs, particularly by arranging lectures, exhibitions and musical evenings.

A series of lectures were given during the year and among the subjects were English literature, biology, the approach to music, architecture and the community, elements of play production and a series on around the world and famous Barbadians.

The Association has also sponsored several Broadcast Programmes over the radio diffusion service including Quiz Competitions, Radio Forum and poetry readings.

HEALTH

The health of the Colony was average throughout the year. There were no epidemics of any serious disease. The death-rate was practically the same as that of the previous year. The chief causes of death were diseases of the circulatory, respiratory and digestive systems.

The nutritional standard of the population was maintained at the same level as that of the previous year.

Medical aid was rendered to the poor and destitute by 13 part-time Parochial Medical Officers, appointed and paid by the 11 Vestries of the Colony.

In January the General Hospital was taken over as a Government institution under the Barbados General Hospital Act, 1947. The Hospital is now subject to the general superintendence of the Chief Medical Officer and under the immediate supervision of the Surgeon Superintendent. The work of the Hospital was carried out by a Government staff consisting of a surgeon specialist assisted by three visiting surgeons and three assistant visiting surgeons, one ophthalmic ear, nose and throat surgeon, one assistant ophthalmic ear, nose and throat surgeon, one house surgeon and anaesthetist, three house surgeons and three visiting out-patient physicians to deal with the large number of out-patients. The post of radiologist was vacant for the greater part of the year.

Diets of the working classes were somewhat deficient in meats and fats. In the early part of the year ground provisions were scarce but the good rainfalls in the latter half of the year resulted in a good supply. Prices of certain staple articles of diet are stabilised and kept within the purchasing power of the working classes.

Reorganisation of Medical Services

Two Public Health Acts passed by the Legislature in 1947 still await proclamation. One of these, the Medical Services Act, provides for the establishment of a Department of Medical Services under the Director of Medical Services who will be responsible for all matters concerning Public Health and Medical Services in the Colony. The other Act is the Quarantine Act which will enable quarantine procedure to be brought in line with modern practice.

A new Public Health Act was considered by the Legislature during

the year but unfortunately did not complete its passage through the Legislature before the end of the session. It is hoped that this bill will receive early attention in the new session.

The coming into force of the Barbados General Hospital Act has already been referred to. The Hospital is made a Government institution within the framework of the Medical Department.

Communicable Diseases

Enteric Fever. Ninety-eight cases were notified compared with 97 in the previous year. The incidence of this disease remains too high and the issue of model latrines to improve rural sanitation has continued throughout the year. Contacts of cases are immunised.

Tuberculosis. One hundred and one cases were notified compared with 99 in the previous year. The problem of control remains difficult, but it is hoped that with the passage of the new Public Health Bill that more energetic measures to control this disease will be possible.

Dysentery. Five cases were notified compared with 15 last year. No differentiation as to the type of dysentery was made, but amoebic dysentery is less common than bacillary.

Diphtheria. Twelve cases were notified compared with 36 in 1947. Diphtheria toxoid is supplied free to medical practitioners. When health centres are established the immunisation campaign will be extended to school children.

Cerebrospinal Meningitis. Only two cases were notified compared with eight in 1947, 39 in 1946 and 115 in 1945. This disease, which was introduced in 1945 by labourers returning from the United States of America, is dying out.

Leprosy. Two cases were notified, the same number as in the previous year. The number of cases in the Leper Hospital at the close of the year was 36. The disease is gradually dying out, probably due to improved standards of living.

Poliomyelitis. No cases were notified during the year.

Venereal Disease. The principal venereal diseases were syphilis and gonorrhoea. These diseases are not notifiable and exact figures cannot be given. Improved venereal disease services are contemplated under the new Public Health Act.

Institutions

The Barbados General Hospital. The new pay ward was opened during the year, but accommodation is still inadequate. The building of a new hospital or extension of the present hospital on its present site is under consideration.

The Mental Hospital. This institution has for the accommodation of patients 31 dormitories, four day rooms and 311 single rooms.



THE MAUBY WOMAN IN BRIDGETOWN

She offers a refreshing drink of amber liquid made from boiled tree-bark



A HAUL OF SEA EGGS (SEA URCHINS)

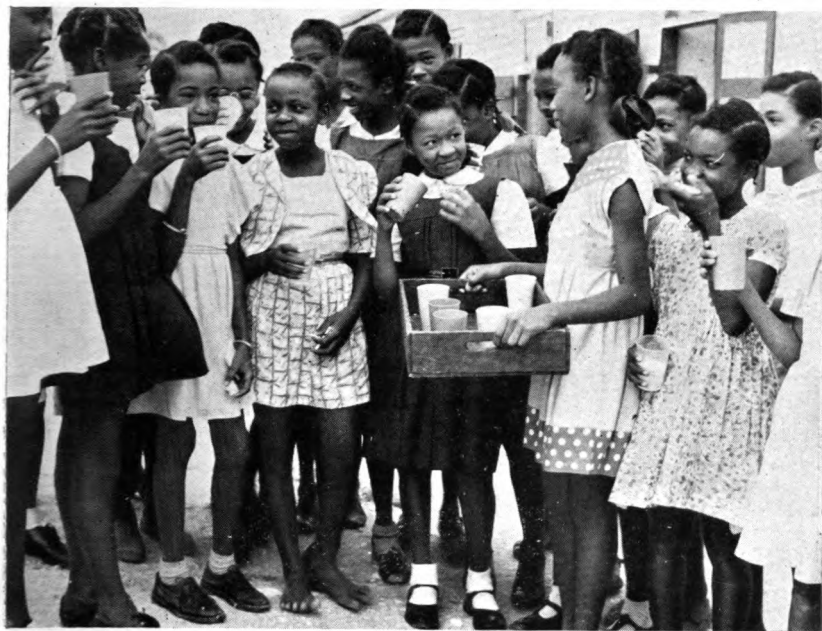
The roes of the sea egg (akin to hens' eggs in taste) are a popular dish in Barbados. The sea eggs are collected from submerged reefs by divers



A NEW SECONDARY SCHOOL UNDER CONSTRUCTION
The situation is behind Speightstown, Barbados



ALL EYES ON TEACHER
A Barbados Junior School



HERE'S HEALTH!

Barbadian school children receive a free milk issue each day of term



Acknowledgments to Tom Leonard

THE SCHOOL AT ERDISTON

This dual-purpose building can comprise either three classrooms for student-teacher practice teaching, or a single hall with stage for college functions



BARBADOS POTTERY

Made at Chalky Mount, this varied selection is displayed at the corner of the bridge across the Careenage, Bridgetown



EXPERIMENTAL COTTON SPINNING PLANT

Installed in January 1947, the plant employs a manager, one overseer, two mechanics and five operators

During the year a building programme which included the building of four new wards to accommodate in all 160 patients, a staff mess room and two occupational therapy sheds was commenced and is now nearing completion. There was a record number of admissions (204) and also a record number of discharges (122). All forms of recognised treatment are carried out in spite of a grave but persistent shortage of medical staff—only one resident where there should be three. At the close of the year the number of inmates was 756.

The Leper Hospital. During the year the treatment of the disease with Diasone and Sulphatrone was introduced and many patients are showing marked signs of improvement under the new treatment. At the close of 1948 there were 36 inmates in residence. During the year eight patients were discharged as cured.

The Prison Hospital. This hospital is in charge of a visiting physician. There is accommodation for men and women.

The Government Industrial Schools. The health of the children continued satisfactory during the year. There was a limited outbreak of mild chicken-pox but no disease of any serious nature occurred. Towards the end of the year, food yeast was added to the diets. The medical work of these institutions is carried out by a part-time visiting physician.

The Maternity Training Hospital. This hospital is intended primarily as a training school for midwives. It was opened for the reception of patients in January and there were 20 pupil midwives in training.

The hospital has accommodation for 20 expectant mothers. At the end of December, 1948, 362 pregnant women had been admitted to the hospital and there had been 298 deliveries.

The hospital is under the charge of a visiting obstetrician and a matron, who are responsible to the Chief Medical Officer for the conduct and training of the pupils.

Parochial Almshouses. There are 11 almshouses, one in each parish, for the care of the destitute sick and for the housing of the aged and poor. The Parochial Medical Officers maintain a high standard of medical care in these institutions. The administrative duties are in the hands of the Churchwardens and Board of Guardians.

Hygiene and Sanitation

The administration of hygiene and sanitation remain in the hands of the 11 separate and independent Boards of Commissioners of Health appointed by the Vestries. These are lay-boards without the guidance of or advice of a public health officer. Under such conditions progress is necessarily slow. Under the new Public Health Bill provision is made for the appointment of Public Health Officers and the Director of Medical Services giving wide powers of control over local sanitary authorities.

Pupils of the elementary schools continue to receive instruction in hygiene and sanitation.

Elementary school children receive adequate dental and visual treatment.

Training of Health Staff

During the year two sanitary inspectors and one health visitor returned to the island from Jamaica where they had been sent for a course in public health training. In September two more sanitary inspectors and two nurses were sent to Jamaica for a similar course. The four nurses sent to the United Kingdom under the London County Council scheme are making good progress and have received very satisfactory reports.

HOUSING

Improvement of the housing conditions is vested in the Housing Board. The first scheme was started in 1936 at Deacons Road and completed in 1941. There are 66 houses on the area, properly laid out with adequate roads. Each house is supplied with a water closet and bath. The second scheme at Belfield provides plots for the decanting of suitable houses to relieve congestion in overcrowded areas. Each plot is supplied with a water closet and bath.

Recently the Government has acquired the Pine Estate and a start has been made in erecting houses. So far about 38 houses have been built, but the scheme envisages a much larger number. The houses are constructed of stone and consist of two and three rooms. At the end of the year, a Housing and Town Planning Act, to replace the Bridgetown Housing Act, 1936, was ready for presentation to the Legislature.

SOCIAL WELFARE

Barbados Welfare Ltd.

This, a non-profit-making, non-political and non-sectarian organisation which had for its purpose the promotion of community life, went into liquidation owing to lack of funds and a falling off of public support.

Child Care

The Baby Welfare League, St. Michael, the Baby Welfare League, Christ Church, and the Baby Welfare League, St. Philip, are voluntary organisations which cater for the needs of young children and mothers. They distribute milk and cod-liver oil and provide medical attention for the infants, and advice to the mothers. In addition to private donations these organisations receive Government and Vestry grants annually. The Children's Goodwill League and Creche works on similar lines. The creche also provides daily accommodation for the children of working mothers. There are six young women in training as nursery nurses. A hot daily meal is given to necessitous school children of the Bridgetown area.

In December, 1947, the Nightengale Memorial Home for children was opened. Dr. H. W. Nightengale, D.D.S., a Barbadian, donated \$5,000 for the purchase of the home. It provides a proper establishment for the care and training of children who have been deprived of the pro-

tection, discipline and love which a good home and wise parents provide. At present the Home houses 29 children transferred from the St. Michael's Almshouse ranging in age from 5 to 14 years.

Youth Organisations

There are many well-organised groups and social clubs. Among the more prominent are the Boy Scouts and Girl Guides, the Y.M.C.A., the Girls' Industrial Union, the Young Men's Progressive Club, the Riverside Club and the Weymouth Club. In addition there are a number of clubs and guilds attached to various religious bodies—the Church Lads Brigade and the Church Girls Brigade of the Anglican Church, the Wesley Clubs and Girls' Guildry of the Wesleyan Church.

Work Among Women

The chief organisations doing such work are the Barbados Women's Social Welfare League, the Girls' Friendly Society, the Mothers' Union of the Church of England and the Women's League of the Wesleyan Church.

Family Case Work

The Family Welfare Society helps to relieve families in straitened circumstances, and ill and handicapped persons. Various religious bodies do work of a similar kind.

Mutual Aid Societies

Friendly Societies. There are 163 friendly societies on the register. Total membership approximates to 81,500, but many persons belong to more than one society; dependents number about 376,500. Contributions average £115,000 annually. These societies provide relief in sickness, assist in the payment of funeral expenses and give a Christmas bonus to "financial" members.

Co-operatives. During the year, there has been a marked increase in interest in co-operation and co-operative ventures, especially among small farmers.

There are at present over 30 groups of cultivators co-operating for the supply of artificial fertilisers and six groups purchasing stock feed co-operatively. Besides these loosely organised groups, there are two flourishing co-operatives, i.e. the St. Silas Men's Co-operative which carries on a wide range of activities among the cultivators of that area and the Shamrock Credit Union started by the St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church and serving the credit needs of its members who are mainly urban workers and salary earners.

There are also several groups from various walks of life now in the process of organisation, and it is hoped that in the near future comprehensive legislation will be enacted which will give a great fillip to the movement.

Relief of the Destitute and Disabled

Old Age Pensions. The first Old Age Pension Act came into operation on 1st May, 1938, and made provision for the payment of pensions to persons who had reached the age of 70 years at a maximum rate of 1s. 6d. per week, with a means test of 4s. By amending Acts the qualifying age has been reduced to 68 years, the pension has been made available to blind persons at the age of 40 years, and the pension and the means test have been increased to 3s. and 5s. a week respectively. During 1948 the sum of £53,154 was paid in old age pensions to 6,907 persons, and administrative expenses were £2,024.

Parochial Poor Relief. The total number of persons who received parochial poor law relief for the year ended 24th March, 1948, was 19,351 at a cost of £109,561.

An almshouse (which for practical purposes is equivalent to a cottage hospital also) is maintained in each parish of the Island. The number of persons admitted for relief into the almshouses was 791 on account of destitution and 2,847 for indoor medical relief.

The care and maintenance of the infirm, aged and destitute poor is a duty of the Vestry of the parish in which such persons are domiciled. The Poor Relief Act, 1892, established the organisation which the respective Vestries have to create for carrying out these duties, but each Vestry has very wide discretion in the manner of carrying them out. The Poor Law Board—a Government department—is required by the Poor Relief Act to satisfy itself that the provisions of the law relating to the Vestries, and all other Acts for the time being in force relating to these duties are carried out. Regular inspections of the parochial poor relief organisations, including institutions, are made at least twice a year by the Chief Medical Officer, who reports when necessary to the Governor, the Poor Law Board, and/or the Poor Law Guardians, the last-named being the appointees of the Vestry, who are charged with these duties.

The Barbados Association in Aid of the Blind, the Deaf and the Dumb. The Association was founded in 1943 ; it is compiling a register, the first of its kind, of all the blind, deaf and dumb persons in the island.

The Association is at present concentrating on the training of the deaf and dumb in the school-age group. Three deaf and dumb children are now at school in Trinidad and preparations for sending two others are under way. These children are supported partly by Vestry and Government grants, partly by funds from the Association, and by help from the families, friends or people interested in the welfare of the children.

Preparations for sending a blind man to Trinidad are almost complete. It is hoped that this man will be trained in craft work and in the reading and writing of braille, so that he may be able to return to the island and give other blind persons the benefit of his training.

Other Institutions

The Salvation Army. The Salvation Army continues to give unselfish, whole-hearted and devoted service. It celebrated its Jubilee in Septem-

ber, 1948. There are 11 thriving corps in the island. In addition, they have at their headquarters night shelters for men and women, and have recently opened a youth centre. The Probation Officer and the female Probation Officer are officers of the Salvation Army.

Seamen's Welfare. The Royal and Merchant Naval Welfare League and the Port Welfare Committee and the Seamen's Club cater for the welfare of seamen.

The St. John Ambulance Brigade. The Barbados District of the St. John Ambulance Brigade Overseas continues to serve the community in many ways, i.e., helping at Baby Welfare Leagues and at public functions whenever the first-aid squad is likely to be necessary.

There are seven nursing divisions and one ambulance division.

The following institutions are supported by private donations and subscriptions :

Ladies' Association for the Relief of the indigent sick and infirm.

The Goodridge Home for Distressed Gentlemen.

The Bessie Yearwood Home for Orphans.

The Haynes Memorial School (formerly The Daily Meal School).

The Almair Home for Elderly Gentlewomen.

The Home for Elderly Gentlemen.

The following are supported by funds from various religious organisations : the St. Mary's Home for elderly women, the St. Paul's Home for elderly women, and the St. Matthias Poor House are maintained by the Church of England ; the St. Vincent de Paul Society and the St. Patrick's Poor School are supported by Roman Catholic Church funds.

Juvenile Delinquency

Juvenile delinquency in Barbados has not assumed the alarming proportions reported in recent years from other parts of the world. Nevertheless there are tendencies which call for ceaseless control and a constant reviewing, not only of methods of approach, but also of the machinery set up to deal with the problem.

The Juvenile Court, having jurisdiction over the 7-16 age-group, is still the chief instrument of defence and 362 children and young persons, 203 of whom were found guilty, appeared before courts of this type during 1948. The island population in this age-group is 39,993 (1946 census).

Offences fall into three categories :

Those against property, which accounted for 101 (including 78 larcenies).

Those against the person, which accounted for 181 (including 119 assault and battery).

Miscellaneous (breaches of Highway Acts, etc.) 80.

Serious thefts and breaking and enterings were few and most of the larcenies were petty.

The assault cases usually arise from childish quarrels and are further provoked by faulty parental attitudes.

Case disposal presents many difficulties. In accordance with modern practice, however, due attention is given to the welfare of the offender. The following table shows methods adopted during 1948 :

Reprimanded	87	Probation	80	Industrial School	15
Whipped	10	Fined	5	Other methods	6

Juvenile Courts are held in each Police District, wherever possible in rooms separate from the adult courtrooms, and the Magistrates are assisted by the Probation Officer.

Probation

For many years in Barbados probation was only used in the treatment of juvenile offenders, but with the coming into operation of the Probation of Offenders Act in May, 1946, a system of adult probation was inaugurated.

The Salvation Army has always been responsible for this work and, at Government request, supplied a full-time officer whose appointment coincided with the introduction of the Act. A woman officer was appointed in 1947.

The Courts have made very wide use of this mode of treatment which enjoins its officers to "advise, assist and befriend" those placed under their care, and during 1948 it was found necessary to appoint two male Assistant Probation Officers. Probationers dealt with during the year numbered 134 adults and 127 juveniles. There are 97 adults and 59 juveniles on the present roll.

In addition to their supervisory duties officers assist the Court by making pre-trial and other investigations. Case-history reports are submitted which prove of assistance to the Magistrate when deciding case treatment, and the officers' help and advice is sought in those cases involving disputes between husband and wife. Assistance is also given when requested in connection with applications for bastardy orders.

The Courts find the Probation Service a valuable adjunct to the dispensation of justice and the steady growth of the system is a mark of its usefulness to the community.

Chapter 8 : Legislation

The year 1948 was not remarkable either for the amount or for the importance of the legislation which found its way on to the Statute Book, but the list of Bills passed is not a true indication of the amount of legislative business which was transacted. Under existing practice provision for expenditure of an extraordinary or capital nature is not normally included in the annual estimates, but legislative authority is sought for each scheme, whether expenditure is to be from Government funds or funds made available under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act. Indeed, no expenditure can be incurred without specific legislative sanction. Some idea of the amount of time devoted to financial business can

be obtained from the fact that during the year the Legislature passed 72 money resolutions to a total of £666,924.

The Public Health Bill, a measure put forward in furtherance of the programme of the Government in establishing efficient medical and health services in the Colony, occupied the attention of the House of Assembly for a considerable time, but was unfortunately passed too late for the Legislative Council to give it attention before the Legislature was prorogued. This measure will be reintroduced in the near future.

Among the Acts passed during the year was the Emergency Powers (Hurricane and Earthquake) Act, which gives the Governor-in-Executive Committee power, in the event of a hurricane or earthquake, of declaring by proclamation that a state of emergency exists, and empowers the issue of orders designed to safeguard supplies and services until normal conditions are restored. Such orders must be laid before the Legislature and are in operation for seven days.

The Income Tax (Amendment) Act included provisions relating to relief from double taxation of incomes arising from the Convention concluded between the Governments of the United Kingdom and the United States of America.

The Matrimonial Causes (Amendment) Act extended the grounds for divorce and judicial separation to include desertion for three years, cruelty, and incurable insanity, and for nullity to include incurable insanity and the communication of venereal disease knowingly.

Chapter 9 : Justice, Police and Prisons

JUSTICE

The Chief Justice of the Island is appointed by His Majesty the King and presides over the Superior Courts, that is to say, the Courts of Chancery, Common Pleas, Ordinary, Divorce and Matrimonial Causes, Grand Sessions, Admiralty, Bankruptcy, Escheat and Error.

The Court of Error hears appeals from the Assistant Court of Appeal when that Court has exercised both original and appellate jurisdiction. However, appeals to the Court of Error from the Assistant Court of Appeal on a finding made in its appellate capacity is limited to points of law, though appeals from its original jurisdiction may be made on both points of law and points of fact.

Appeals lie from the Superior Courts mentioned above, except the Court of Grand Sessions, to the West Indian Court of Appeal. In the case of the Court of Grand Sessions the Chief Justice may in his own discretion reserve any question of law arising during the hearing of any matter before the Court of Grand Sessions for the consideration of the West Indian Court of Appeal. The right of appeal to His Majesty in Council is preserved by section 14 of the West Indian Court of Appeal Act, 1920.

The Court of Grand Sessions sits three times a year in March, July

and November. Before a person can be brought before the Court for trial on a criminal charge the Grand Jury must return a True Bill.

The Assistant Court of Appeal has original and appellate jurisdiction. Two judges sit together when the Court is in its appellate sessions, but only one judge sits when it is exercising its original jurisdiction. In its original jurisdiction the Court has powers to determine cases of debt in which the value of the claim exceeds £20 but does not exceed £50, and in all pleas of personal action where the claim is over £10 but does not exceed £50. The Court also possesses powers to deal with limited cases of equity and probate. In its appellate jurisdiction the Court hears appeals from the decisions of the Magistrates and from the Court of the Petty Debt Judge for Bridgetown.

The Magistrates preside over the District Police Courts, three hearing the criminal cases that arise in Bridgetown and four hearing those in the other districts of the Island. In Bridgetown there is, in addition to the Magistrates dealing with criminal cases, a Petty Debt Court Judge who presides over civil cases. The four District Magistrates outside Bridgetown deal with both criminal and civil cases. The Magistrates also deal with cases involving juvenile offenders and complaints against children and young persons are heard at special times and in different buildings from the main court and they are assisted by the Probation Officer, who was appointed in 1947.

No cases of exceptional interest either in fact or questions of law were heard during 1948.

POLICE

Recommendations of the Report on the Police Force by Superintendent Calver of the London Metropolitan Police during 1945 are gradually being implemented, and action is now being taken with a view to bringing into force certain of the recommendations requiring legislative authority, for example, the delegation of authority to the Deputy Commissioner and Superintendents to inflict punishment on members of the Force below the rank of sergeant, pension facilities, the creation of the rank of inspectors, etc.

The establishment of the Force, as authorized in the Police (Amendment) Act, 1946, is one Commissioner, one Deputy Commissioner, six Superintendents, three sergeants-major, 19 sergeants, 25 lance-sergeants, 67 corporals and 442 constables, together with 37 writ servers. The actual strength was less than these figures by one sergeant and 32 constables. Distributed over the island are nine police stations, 10 sub-stations, five police posts and a guard-house. The change from last year is due to the reorganisation of the Island into four Police Areas in November; it became necessary to raise the status of three posts to that of sub-stations, thereby reducing the number of posts by the same figure.

The total number of cases of all kinds reported to the Police during 1948 was 5,798 compared with 6,457 in 1947. Indictable and minor offences numbered 462 and 3,067 respectively in 1948 and in addition there

were 2,269 traffic cases. These figures show an increase of 39 indictable offences and decreases of minor and traffic offences of 233 and 465 respectively. There were seven cases of murder, compared with three in 1947; in two cases a conviction was secured, one case was dismissed and four awaited trial. The number of cases of larceny decreased by 55, but the figures for praedial larceny increased from 148 in 1947 to 207 in 1948.

Cane fires reported which formed the subject of police investigation numbered 89 compared with 280 in 1947, the acreage damaged was 659 compared with 3,701. In one of these cases incendiarism was suspected, six were known to be accidental and the cause of the remaining 82 is unknown. The short crop and good relations between employers and labour were partly responsible for the decrease in the number and extent of the fires.

PRISONS

There is one Central Prison, the Glendairy Prison, which houses male and female prisoners in separate compounds, and has cell accommodation for 275 males and 125 females. The establishment consists of the Governor of the Prison, 50 male and 12 female prison officers.

Male prisoners are separated as far as possible into first offenders and recidivists and are classified for the purpose of vocational training. Female prisoners do the cooking and clothes-washing for the whole prison.

First offenders are only employed on duties inside the prison and generally these duties are of a lighter nature and may involve vocational training under instructors in carpentry, tailoring, breadmaking and other trades. Other offenders are employed in stone-quarrying, stone-breaking and the upkeep of Government lands outside the prison.

Offenders in the first division are permitted to obtain their food outside at their own expense and may wear their own clothes, and are employed as light labour within the prison. Prisoners in the second division wear a distinctive dress from the ordinary offenders. Unconvicted prisoners awaiting trial are permitted to wear their own clothing and may procure their own food from outside, and if they work are paid for it.

A medical officer visits the prison daily and examines all new admissions in addition to attending to sick offenders. The general health of the prisoners during 1948 was good. The Church of England chaplain visits the prison three times a week and conducts services on Sundays and festivals. In addition he supervises a library and school which are maintained for the benefit of the prisoners. During the year fairly liberal assistance with money, clothing and tools was given to discharged prisoners owing to the increased cost of living and unemployment.

The total number of persons imprisoned during 1948 was 290, an increase on the 1947 figure which was 255.* The daily average was 137 males and 12 females compared with 118 males and 12 females during 1947.

* In the Annual Report for 1947 the number of males only (228) was given in error for the total.

GOVERNMENT INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS

There are separate Government Industrial Schools for boys and girls under one Superintendent. Fourteen boys and one girl were admitted to the schools during 1948 for periods varying from three to five years, compared with 13 boys and one girl during 1947. The daily average was 71 for boys and 11 for girls, compared with 79 and 15, respectively, for the previous year.

In addition to schooling the boys are given vocational training in carpentry, masonry, tailoring, gardening, animal husbandry and hand-craft. By the separation of the plantation from the schools' administration in May, the boys will no longer assist in the cane crop. The girls are taught laundry work, cooking, fancy and plain needlework and handicrafts. Special classes in domestic science are arranged once weekly. The activities of the schools include sports and games, with matches against neighbouring teams, concerts, mobile cinema shows and sea-bathing. Several visits were made by parents, guardians and friends throughout the year and a system of granting home leave of one day each term was in operation for deserving boys only. Contact was maintained with those discharged by the Acting Superintendent and the after-care officer and as much assistance as possible was given them in finding suitable employment.

Chapter 10 : Public Utilities and Public Works

WATERWORKS

The Waterworks Department is responsible for the construction, maintenance and extension of the waterworks for the supply of the whole island with water for domestic and industrial purposes. There are five pumping stations and approximately 655 miles of main pipes laid. Seven hundred and twenty-six standpipes distributed throughout the Island give the inhabitants a free supply of water. In addition, approximately 7,000 premises are supplied with laid-on water by the Department. Water is also supplied to shipping in Carlisle Bay when required.

A scheme has been prepared by the Hydraulic and Electrical Adviser to the Comptroller for Development and Welfare for the extension and development of the water supply system and is under consideration by Government. A report has been submitted and the sum of £112,000 made available for implementing the first part of the report. Most of the necessary machinery has been ordered.

ELECTRICITY

Electricity is supplied by a private company, the Barbados Electric Supply Corporation Limited, to private and public premises, and is used for street lighting in Bridgetown and part of Christ Church. Power is

supplied to many of the sugar factories. The company operates under the Electric Light and Power (Provisional Orders Confirmation) Act, 1907. The whole island is not yet supplied, but under the terms of the Act the company has the right to extend its service to any area within 50 years from 1st August, 1936.

Electricity is generated at 3,300 volts and is supplied to the H.T. distribution network at 3,300 volts and 11,000 volts. Domestic and other low-tension supply is at 110 volts, 50 cycles A.C. ; general power supply is at 208 volts two and three phase. The number of consumers at 31st December, 1948, was 7,751 compared with 6,987 in 1947.

A Government Electrical Inspector has been appointed under the Electricity Act, 1936. His duties are to inspect annually all Government installations and apparatus, to inspect new installations on public or private premises to see that they comply with the Electric Light and Power Act and that they meet the proper safety requirements, and to inspect the wiring from the Electric Company's mains to the consumers' meters. In addition, the Government Electrical Inspector performs duties and is invested with powers under the Wireless Telegraphy Act, 1940.

GAS

A small Gas Company operates under the terms of the Gas Act, 1911, and supplies gas to private consumers in the Bridgetown and Hastings areas. In addition, some of the older parts of Bridgetown still use gas for street lighting.

The Company is actively engaged in a project for utilising " natural gas " relayed by way of the Belle Pumping Station from Turner's Hall to its works.

BROADCASTING

A wire broadcasting system, confined to Bridgetown and suburbs, is provided by a local company—Radio Distribution (Barbados) Limited—with 2,548 subscribers. The company operates under an agreement with the Government entered into in accordance with the provisions of the Wireless Telegraphy Act, 1940, and relays programme items received by wireless from abroad and also broadcasts news of local and West Indian interest.

The only direct reception in the Island is from the British Broadcasting Corporation's Empire Service and foreign stations operating on short-wavelengths. There is no local wireless broadcasting service, but Government possesses a small transmitter which is used occasionally to transmit, locally and to neighbouring islands, programmes approved by the Governor-in-Executive Committee ; such programmes included the commentaries on the play in the cricket matches against the M.C.C. team in January.

PUBLIC WORKS

During 1948 the Public Works Department carried out normal maintenance work on Government buildings, as well as certain alterations and additions at a total cost of approximately £17,200.

The more important of the new works undertaken were :

(1) The completion of the conversion of the building purchased by the Government into offices for the Chief Medical Officer, the Harbour and Shipping Master and the Labour Commissioner at a cost of £4,950.

(2) Alterations to the Colonial Secretary's Office, the office previously occupied by the Labour Commissioner, and the conversion of two dining halls at the Garrison into offices, at a cost of approximately £1,350.

(3) At the Mental Hospital it was decided to double the accommodation of the new dormitories under construction by building them as two-storey buildings instead of single-storey buildings at an estimated additional cost of £7,600. Some delay was experienced waiting for materials required for the second storey. At the end of the year, quarters for the Assistant Medical Superintendent, the dining hall, the male dormitory and the boundary wall were completed ; the female dormitory and the two isolation wards were approaching completion. The total expenditure up to the end of the year was about £34,700.

(4) The construction of quarters for the matron at the Maternity Hospital was completed in September at a cost of £1,850.

(5) During the year funds were provided for the construction of occupational therapy sheds at the Mental Hospital, at an estimated cost of £1,500 ; a new police station at Eagle Hall at a cost of £5,660 ; extensive alterations and repairs to buildings at Seawell Airport at an estimated cost of £3,000, and the conversion of barrack buildings at St. Ann's Fort into flats at an estimated cost of £12,620. At the end of the year one occupational therapy shed was completed, the police station at Eagle Hall and the work at Seawell were approaching completion, and work on the barrack buildings was well in hand.

(6) In November the sum of £1,690 was provided for alterations and additions to a building at Oistins purchased by the Government for conversion into a police sub-station. This work was about half complete at the end of the year.

GOVERNMENT ARCHITECT AND PLANNING OFFICER

The Department was formed in April, 1946, and was at first paid for partly under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act, but was taken over in its entirety by the Barbados Government in April, 1947. It is the outcome of the work of the Town Planning Adviser to the Comptroller for Colonial Development and Welfare in the West Indies. Its first task is housing and town and country planning ; the two have been linked in the Barbados Housing and Town and Country Planning Bill which is not yet law. Until the Department is fully engaged upon work under the Bill, it has been occupied upon the design and construction of various Government buildings.

Schools. The Department has been concerned to produce a standard type design to meet the large school building requirements of the Department of Education.

Erdiston College. Erdiston House with its 15 acres of ground was purchased by the Government in 1934 and the very fine eighteenth-century house together with new buildings now form Erdiston Teachers' Training College which was opened for resident student teachers in January, 1948. Repairs and alterations to the main house and the construction of the students' dormitory and the principal's house were completed by this Department in 1947; the model school was completed in September, 1948. It consists of three classrooms divided from each other by a removable screen to form a hall with stage, the classroom at one end being at a higher level than the other two. Adjoining the classroom is a small kitchen and servery for the children's milk and biscuits during the day and for refreshments when the building is used as a hall for dances, recitals or lectures. The buildings are grouped round an open court where existing trees provide shade. The cost was £6,000.

St. Leonard's Girls' Modern Secondary School. Work started late in 1948 upon the construction of a new girls' modern secondary school in Bridgetown, which will accommodate 660 pupils. Beside the classrooms, there is to be an assembly hall, library, laboratory and craftrooms. The estimated cost is £35,000.

The Coleridge and Parry School. Work has commenced upon the construction of a new boys' secondary school to serve the northern parishes and to replace two existing secondary schools whose buildings have ceased to be serviceable—the Parry School and the Coleridge School. The new school which will accommodate 360 boys will be known as the Coleridge and Parry School. Accommodation will include hall, library, art room and laboratories. The school is to have a course with an agricultural bias and its estimated cost is £21,200.

The Chalky Mount Primary School. This small school of six classrooms for 80 infants and 160 juniors was started in December, 1948. There is to be an assembly hall, handicraft room, nutrition room and head-teacher's cottage attached to the classroom block. The site is difficult in that it is steeply sloped and of clay foundation which is liable to movement. Extensive use of a bulldozer proved valuable in the preparation of the site.

Housing. There is a great need for large-scale housing in the Colony. This is being tackled by the Department in three ways: the preparation of sites with roads, water and sanitary units consisting of shower bath, w.c. and sink; the construction of new houses in a traditional manner; and building research to develop ways of reducing the cost of housing.

In conjunction with the Housing Board, sites have been prepared to receive 86 existing chattel houses from congested sites in Bridgetown.

A pilot scheme of 38 new houses has been constructed on Government-owned land, using coral stone walls, timber floors, doors and shutters and asbestos roof. Accommodation includes living room, two bedrooms, kitchen, bathroom and w.c. The cost has been £550 per unit plus £150 per unit for roads, water service and garden walls.

Experiments have been conducted by this Department in the use of megasse, a virtual waste product of the sugar industry, to pre-fabricate units for house construction. This type of construction, which has been patented on behalf of the Barbados Government, is known as Megcrete. A grant of £500 from the Colonial Development and Welfare Organisation has been made further to develop this scheme.

Speightstown Library and Post Office. A very charming eighteenth-century building in Speightstown owned by the Government has been converted to provide a new sub-post office, a new branch library and an assembly room, where recitals, lectures and film shows are given. Between the building and the sea, there is a walled garden which has been planted, seats have been provided and a pergola built. Openings have been made in the wall to give framed pictures of the sea from the garden.

Chapter II : Communications

SHIPPING

The steamship lines at present calling at Barbados are:

From the United Kingdom and European Ports—The Harrison Line, the Blue Star Line, the Royal Netherlands Steamship Company and the Compagnie Générale Transatlantique, though the three latter have not established a regular service to the island.

From Canada—The Canadian National Steamships and the Alcoa Steamship Company, Incorporated.

From the United States of America—The Alcoa Steamship Company, Incorporated.

From Newfoundland—The Newfoundland Railways operate a fleet of small motor vessels of about 325 tons.

From South American Ports—The Booth Line, the Lamport and Holt Line, both of which visit at irregular intervals, and the Flotta Mercante del Estado operating a freight service with the Argentine.

From India and the Far East—The Nourse Line visits periodically.

Inter-Colonial Service—The Compagnie Générale Transatlantique operate an inter-colonial service between the islands of the French Antilles and the Guianas, calling at Barbados, the Windward Islands and Trinidad.

During 1948, 971 vessels with a total net tonnage of 1,076,557 tons arrived at the port as compared with 975 vessels of 1,222,360 tons in 1947. In addition to the above, eight British men-of-war, one American naval seaplane-tender, 17 yachts and 10 Royal Fleet Auxiliaries visited Barbados. Six hundred and ninety-one vessels with a total gross tonnage of 63,716

tons entered the carenage as compared with 615 vessels of 53,054 tons in 1947. Of these, 138 were steam or motor vessels, the remainder being sailing vessels.

The number of seamen engaged at the port during the year was 1,140 and 1,125 were discharged. Four were reported as having deserted and one as having died abroad. The number of seamen engaged at the port to serve in ships going to foreign ports was 395 and of this number 171 were still serving afloat at the end of the year.

AIR

The headquarters of the Directorate General of Civil Aviation for the West Indies is at Barbados.

Barbados has one airfield at Seawell, about 12 miles from Bridgetown. The number of aircraft arriving during the year was 1,141 compared with 1,027 in 1947. The large majority of these were planes on the scheduled flights of the British West Indian Airways.

Passengers arriving by air numbered 10,562 and 10,935 departed out of totals of 16,017 and 15,846 passengers respectively entering and leaving the island.

ROADS

The Department of Highways and Transport was created by the Highways and Transport Act on 1st June, 1945, and took over the duties previously performed by the Central Road Board and the Transport Board. The new Department, which is under a Director of Highways and Transport, is responsible for the maintenance of the main highways and controls public transport and road traffic.

The roads over which the Director has authority are set out in a schedule to the Act and new roads may be added by the Governor-in-Executive Committee. The upkeep of the remaining roads is still the responsibility of the Vestry of the parish in which it lies. The island is approximately 166 square miles of land, all of which is either occupied or closely cultivated, and this comparatively small area is served by 546 miles of road open to traffic, of which 387 are oil-emulsion surfaced. These roads, to a large extent, have been put into good order and are fully capable of serving the somewhat exacting needs of the varied forms of transport common throughout Barbados.

In the main the Department of Highways and Transport controls and maintains the arterial highways radiating from Bridgetown and certain connecting roads, including all the roads in the parishes of St. Michael, St. Andrew and St. Lucy, totalling 305 miles, of which 287 are oil-emulsion surfaced.

The department has also been responsible for the maintenance of the runway of Seawell Airport.

As a result of the improved conditions of the road and absence of difficult gradients, except perhaps in the Scotland area, practically the

whole island is accessible to motor and other traffic. The number of private cars in use at the end of the year was 2,606, and in addition there were 1,457 commercial motor vehicles, 119 motor cycles, 18,119 pedal bicycles and a large number of animal-drawn carts.

The city of Bridgetown and the suburbs are served by omnibuses running at frequent intervals and at moderate fares not exceeding 1½*d.* for two miles. Omnibuses have their termini in Trafalgar Square or Beckwith Place and depart for the seaside districts, as well as to the more popular residential inland parts of the island. The country districts are provided with a daily service.

During the war years the omnibus service was particularly congested, but the position is gradually being improved as new omnibuses become available. One hundred and thirty-four omnibuses operate in the island on routes approved by the Director of Highways and Transport, though they are owned by 15 private owners who receive a concession to run a service. At the moment most of the omnibuses are of an open-side type.

POSTS

The General Post Office is situated in the Public Buildings in Bridgetown and transacts all classes of postal business.

The total revenue and expenditure of the Post Office over the past five years is given in the table below. The gross revenue column includes customs duties, package tax and stamp duties. In the net revenue column these have been subtracted so that the true postal revenue can be ascertained.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Gross Revenue</i>	<i>Net Revenue</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>
	£	£	£
1944 . . .	63,878	49,604	41,608
1945 . . .	73,178	57,738	40,421
1946 . . .	85,905	60,291	43,652
1947 . . .	103,719	69,036	52,306
1948 . . .	96,373	65,540	56,282

In respect of the year 1948, surplus net revenue over expenditure is £9,258, but the figure will probably be considerably greater at the end of the financial year when the sale by the Crown Agents of the Silver Wedding Anniversary issue of stamps will have been brought to account. Thus the decreased net revenue figure of £3,496 for the year compared with 1947 does not present a true picture.

Expenditure has increased by £3,976 compared with 1947 and this is caused by salary increments and the increased cost of postal stores and materials.

The total number of air letters despatched during the year was 774,594 compared with 697,365 in 1947, showing a steady increase due largely to the uncertainty and delays of surface mails, which declined from 230,260 in 1947 to 225,643 in 1948. The air mail figures compare with the pre-war figure of 49,018 for 1939.

The number of inland packages of all kinds, including official and registered packages, amounted to 1,926,853 compared with 1,870,118 during 1947, an increase of 56,735 due in no small measure to the number of electioneering circulars sent out by candidates for the General Election.

Inland registered packages increased from 24,783 in 1947 to 25,645, while 28,709 registered packages were despatched and 58,912 received to and from overseas destinations compared with 28,037 and 52,990 in 1947.

In all the Post Office handled 4,271,463 articles of mail compared with 3,834,244 in 1947, an increase of 437,219.

The figures of overseas mail and the comparative figures for 1947 are as follows :

		<i>Despatched</i>		<i>Received</i>	
		1947	1948	1947	1948
Air mail . . .		677,018	753,194	558,566	754,001
Registered . . .		20,347	21,400	44,732	50,083
Total . . .		697,365	774,594	603,298	804,084
Ocean mail . . .		222,570	218,334	347,541	444,096
Registered . . .		7,690	7,309	8,258	8,829
Total . . .		230,260	225,643	355,799	452,925
Grand Total .		927,625	1,000,237	959,097	1,257,009

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

The island is an important centre for both cable and radio communication, being the junction point of several cables as well as the site of a large modern wireless installation of great range, established by Cable and Wireless, Limited.

External telecommunications services are operated by the Cable and Wireless (West Indies), Limited, controlled by Cable and Wireless, Limited. This company owns and operates cable connections with most of the other important West Indian islands and British Guiana, and through Turks Island and Bermuda to Halifax, where connection is made with the company's North Atlantic cable system to Great Britain and other parts of the world.

The company has also recently established in the island large long-range wireless installations which, with its previously established wireless coast station, are operated in conjunction with the cable system and provide services with many parts of the world and with a number of other West Indian islands which are not connected by cable. The coast station also provides a service with ships at sea.

The wireless telephone service, which was inaugurated in 1945 in collaboration with the Barbados Telephone Company, has since been extended and now provides services to Empire and Dominion and foreign territories.

The Western Telegraph Company, Limited, and the Western Union Telegraph Company, also controlled by Cable and Wireless, Limited, have direct cable communication with Brazil and South America and Miami, respectively.

There is no internal telegraph system. Internal telecommunications are provided by a telephone service serving all parts of the island and operated by a private company, the Barbados Telephone Company, Limited, which has a modern automatic central exchange in Bridgetown and three branch exchanges, one of which is automatic. There are 2,852 exchange lines, 3,613 stations and eight private branch exchanges with a total wire mileage of 13,120.

Chapter 12 : Barbados Regiment

At the conclusion of the South African war the Imperial Government made it known that they intended to withdraw the regular troops stationed in the island. The local Government, realising the necessity of providing itself with its own armed forces, passed an Act to establish the Barbados Volunteer Force. This came into being on 2nd July, 1902. The Governor, Sir Frederick Hodgson, K.C.M.G., was its first Commanding Officer.

The establishment of the Force consisted of an infantry company of 50 members, a detachment of artillery and another of cyclists. The Inspector of Police was made *ex officio* Adjutant of the Force.

The first public parade in which the Barbados Volunteer Force took part was at His Majesty the King's Birthday Parade in 1904, when they paraded with a battalion of the Worcestershire Regiment.

In 1907 a detachment of the Barbados Volunteer Force was sent to St. Lucia to assist in quelling riots ; and in 1911 a contingent was sent to represent Barbados at His Majesty King George V's Coronation.

During the 1914-18 War the Force carried out certain defence duties, many of its members obtaining leave to proceed overseas to join active service units.

During the intervening years of peace, regular serving officers were appointed to carry out the duties of Staff Officer of the Local Forces and Adjutant of the Barbados Volunteer Force.

In 1939 the Force was embodied, and additional United Kingdom officers were later attached to assist in training.

In October, 1942, the War Office decided to absorb the Force into the Caribbean Regiment, the local Battalion being known as the Barbados Battalion. This unit subsequently became the Islands Battalion and was disbanded in 1947.

Before demobilisation, His Excellency the Governor, Sir Hilary Blood, K.C.M.G., appointed a committee to make recommendations on the reconstitution of the Barbados Volunteer Force. The recommendations were approved and the War Office handed over arms, ammunition, clothing, equipment, etc., to form a battalion.

Soon after recruiting started application was made to local Government to have the name of the Force changed to the Barbados Regiment. The War Office raised no objection to this and the necessary bill was passed through the Legislature on 25th November, 1948.

The strength of the Regiment at 31st December, 1948, was 17 officers and 135 other ranks.

In response to an application made in August, 1948, the Barbados Regiment is now affiliated to the Royal Leicestershire Regiment, which has associations with the island.

PART III

Chapter I : Geography and Climate

BARBADOS, the most easterly of the West Indian islands, is situated in latitude $13^{\circ} 4'$ North and longitude $59^{\circ} 37'$ West. In latitude it compares with Madras or the Gambia, but the climate differs from both. The Island is triangular in shape and is 21 miles long by 14 miles across the widest part. It contains approximately 166 square miles, with a population at the end of 1947 of 199,012. It is approximately the size of the Isle of Wight.

Natural and climatic conditions justify the claim of Barbados to be the healthiest of all West Indian islands. The Island is much resorted to by residents in neighbouring Colonies, and a considerable number of visitors from northern climates find it an agreeable change. There is little variation in temperature, the range being generally from 69° to 90° F. and in the cool months—December to May—as low occasionally as 64° . The Island during this time gets the full benefit of the cool north-east trade winds.

"The geological structure of Barbados is extremely simple. It consists of a basement of much-folded sandstones and shales (the Scotland series) covered unconformably by the soft, chalklike rocks of the Oceanic series. Except in the Scotland district, both of these geological series are covered unconformably with a layer of coral limestone which varies in thickness from a thin veneer to 240–260 feet." *

The Island lies almost out of the track of hurricanes, although it is a matter of history that these have swept over it at far intervals, notably in 1780, 1831 and 1898, doing considerable damage. Earth tremors have been occasionally felt, but severe earthquake shocks have not occurred.

In May 1812 Mount Soufrière on the island of St. Vincent, which is 95 miles to the west of Barbados, erupted, and thousands of tons of dust were deposited on the Colony. The dust is said to have improved the soil of the fields.

In appearance Barbados is peculiarly English. It lacks entirely the restless luxuriance of other tropical islands. Its general aspect is green and undulating, and because the colour of the sugar cane is the same as that of grass, for many months of the year the Barbados landscape recalls the downs of Sussex or the weald of Kent. The plantation houses, set in copses of dark-foliaged trees, increase the similarity.

The Island has many attractions for tourists—yachting, golf, cricket, tennis and some of the finest sea-bathing in the world. The hotels are good, and most of the clubs are open to visitors. The Island produces

* Starkey, *Economic Geography of Barbados*.

fine thoroughbred horses which compete successfully in the race meetings of other islands. The Barbados Turf Club holds three meetings a year. Polo is played, and there are pleasant rides over the countryside, particularly along the "intervals," as the grassy bridle paths through the fields are locally called.

Chapter 2 : History

The original inhabitants of Barbados were the Arawak Indians who migrated probably from the mainland of South America. When they arrived is not known, but relics of their occupation down to the latter years of the sixteenth century have been discovered in various parts of the Island. By the time the English settlers came they had disappeared, partly through Carib raids from the neighbouring islands, and partly through the Spaniards, who deported them to work in the mines of Hispaniola.

The first Europeans to sight Barbados were Portuguese, at some time in the sixteenth century. They called it Los Barbados after the bearded fig trees they found there. In 1536 Pedro a Campos visited the Island and left pigs to breed so that wayfarers should not lack food. He found no Indians. The Island was deserted. The Portuguese never claimed possession of the Island and it remained without nationality until Captain Cataline of the *Olive Blossom*, driven out of his course on a voyage to Guiana, landed on the leeward coast near the modern Hometown and erected a cross and inscribed on a tree nearby "JAMES K OF E AND OF THIS ISLAND." This happened in 1625; but it was not until 1627 that the first settlement was made. In the previous year the King, James I, granted the Island to the Earl of Marlborough, whose protégé, Sir William Courteen, fitted out an expedition commanded by one John Powell. Powell, however, carried letters of marque and, having captured a Spanish prize, returned with it to Cowes in July 1626 without having reached the Island. A second expedition was fitted out, and on 20th February, 1627, the ship *William and John*, commanded by Henry Powell, landed 80 settlers at the spot where Captain Cataline had set up his cross. They called it the Hole, hence the modern name of Hometown.

Meanwhile, in 1623, another nobleman, the Earl of Carlisle, had shown his interest in the West Indies. Under his patronage Thomas Warner had succeeded in establishing in St. Christopher the first settlement in the British West Indian Colonies. In 1627, when Charles I issued Letters Patent to Lord Carlisle granting him proprietary rights over all the "Caribee Islands" Barbados was apparently included. Lord Carlisle bought off Lord Marlborough's interest by settling on him and his heirs an annuity of £300. Courteen fitted out the original expedition of 1625, waited until Lord Carlisle was absent from England and induced yet another nobleman, the Earl of Pembroke, to claim Barbados. Once again Letters Patent were issued, this time granting Barbados and three

other islands to Lord Pembroke. When Lord Carlisle returned to England and discovered what had happened, he succeeded in getting himself reinstated. He also took practical steps to secure his possession of the Island by sending out sixty-four new settlers who founded St. Michael's town, on the site of Bridgetown, the present capital. This settlement immediately quarrelled with the older colony and after a fight, the windward men, as the newcomers were called, overcame the leeward men.

In 1636 Lord Carlisle died, leaving his rights in Barbados and the Caribee Islands in trust for the payment of his debts with remainder to his son, who, in 1647, leased his rights to Lord Willoughby of Parham for twenty-one years. In 1650 Lord Willoughby assumed the Government of Barbados in the name of the King and caused an Act to be passed recognising the rights of the King, Lord Carlisle and himself; but in 1652 the Island capitulated to a force despatched by the Commonwealth on terms providing for government by a Governor appointed by the Commonwealth. This was the extinction of proprietary rule.

At the Restoration the various claims based or secured on the Carlisle Patent revived, but a return to the proprietary system was strongly opposed by the planters whose titles to land were in many cases defective. After lengthy negotiations a settlement was arrived at, based on the surrender of the Carlisle Patent to the Crown and the compensation of the various claims out of a fixed revenue provided by the Colony in return for the confirmation of local land titles. The financial terms of the settlement were laid down by an Order in Council allocating the future revenue of the Caribee Islands, that is to say, Barbados and the Leeward Islands, to the satisfaction of the claims, after which it was to revert to the Crown. The revenue itself was provided by a $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. duty on exports which was imposed by Acts passed by the Barbados Legislature in 1663, and by that of the Leeward Islands in 1664. This duty continued in force and was a constant source of grievance to the Colonies until 1838 when it was abolished by an Act of the Imperial Parliament.

Barbados has never changed hands since the date of settlement, but it has had some narrow escapes. In 1665 the Dutch Admiral, de Ruyter, attempted to capture it with a fleet of twenty-five ships of the line, two fire ships and 2,500 troops. When the news of his approach reached Barbados the British ships were brought in close under the batteries. The Dutch fleet attempted to follow them, but the fire from the English vessels was so destructive that the flagship was disabled and the expedition was forced to withdraw.

During the eighteenth century when the West Indies were involved in the French and American wars, Barbados was liable to attack and was ringed with forts, the crumbling stones and rusting guns of which still remain. In 1782 the Island was saved from occupation only by Rodney's victory in the "Battle of the Saints" on 12th April. Again, in 1805, the forts were manned when it was learned that the French and Spanish fleets had been sighted off St. Lucia, but the arrival of Nelson on board the *Victory* accompanied by the whole English fleet, restored tranquillity. Nelson's visit to the Island and the gratitude of the inhabitants for their

delivery were commemorated by the erection in 1811 of a bronze statue in Trafalgar Square, overlooking the Bridgetown carenage.*

The first settlers had raised tobacco and cotton. In 1644 certain Dutch sugar planters and traders, expelled from Guiana by the Portuguese, introduced their craft to Barbados. The first mills were worked by cattle, but in 1655 the windmill was introduced. In 1841 the first steam engines were at work and thereafter the windmills declined. The last of them ceased work in 1946.

During the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries Barbados was an island of plenty and prosperity. Many English families settled there, as place-names and memorials bear witness, for instance, Codrington College, Bulkeley and Lascelles Plantations, Drax Hall, Edgcombe and Frere Pilgrim estates. The Council Chamber possesses portraits of the first, second and third Earls of Harewood. The planters were rich and displayed their wealth as was customary at the time, partly by erecting ostentatious monuments by the finest British sculptors of the day. The interior of a Barbados parish church has, therefore, a particularly English look. Many of the memorials are the work of sculptors of Liverpool and Bristol, from which so many of the settlers had come, but there are also examples of the work of Flaxman and Bacon; and the little church of St. George can boast of a memorial of Nollekens on its southern wall, one by Westmacott on its northern wall, and an altar-piece by Benjamin West. Other churches have their interest. It was in a vault in the churchyard of Christ Church that in 1820 there occurred the well-known and mysterious displacement of coffins. The graveyard of St. John's Church contains a memorial to Ferdinando Paleologus "descended from the Imperial line of the last Christian Emperors of Greece".

Ever since the Island was first colonised, the connection between Barbados and Northern America has been very close. Many families in the Carolinas, and some even as far north as New England, reached America *via* Barbados.

The bond between Barbados and Britain has been maintained by a number of well-known names, down to our day. Warren Hastings' father, Penniston, was at one time Rector of Christ Church, though Warren himself was born in England. Leigh Hunt was of Barbadian parentage, his grandfather having been Rector of St. Michael, and his father a clergyman who flitted between Bridgetown and Philadelphia before settling down as a fashionable preacher in London. The famous Chenery, Professor of Arabic at Oxford, reviser of the Old Testament, and Editor of the *The Times* from 1877 to 1884, was born in Barbados in 1826. In our own day, Sir Frank Newsam, Permanent Under Secretary of State for Home Affairs, was a Barbadian; and the Island takes pride in the fact that John Goddard was chosen to captain both the West Indies cricket team which met the M.C.C. in January, 1948 (for two of the four test matches), and the West Indies team which toured India, Pakistan and Ceylon a year later.

* In 1914 Barbados was again exposed to the enemy. The German cruiser *Karlsruhe* was ordered to attack the Island, but blew up *en route*.

During the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries a prosperous Sephardic Jewish community grew up in Barbados. They gradually declined through emigration and assimilation, until in the early years of the century the community disappeared. Their beautifully furnished synagogue was alienated—it is now the headquarters of the Barbados Turf Club and a Political Association—and the graveyard desecrated, many of its memorials being broken. Of recent years a new, Ashkenazi, community of some sixteen families from Europe has grown up.

In 1751, George Washington, then a lad of nineteen, visited Barbados as the companion of his dying brother, Lawrence, who came to Barbados in the hope of recovering his health. Washington, as his diary records, was much taken with the Island. He enjoyed his rides in the cool of the day, and he met the best society in the Island, becoming a member of the Beefsteak and Tripe Club. He is known to have visited Christ Church and to have dined at Graeme Hall nearby. On leaving the Island he recorded in his diary: "Hospitality and genteel behaviour is shown to every Gentleman stranger by the inhabitants."

The devastating hurricane of 1831 put an end to these halcyon days, and the West Indies as a whole were already entering a trough of depression.

Emancipation of the slaves in 1834 caused a great change in the economy of the Island, despite the compensation of £1½ million which the planters received from the British Treasury. It did not for some time greatly amend the status of the slaves. The white minority, the old "plantocracy" still dominated the Island politically, socially and commercially. In 1876 matters came to a head in the so-called Confederation Riots.

A new Governor, John Pope Hennessy, was appointed with instructions to secure from the Legislature consent to certain measures of administrative unification in the Windward group, of which Barbados was the headquarters. One purpose of these proposals, prematurely labelled as "Confederation", was to by-pass the consistent obstructiveness of a Legislature elected by 1,300 voters out of a population of over 160,000; and Barbadian particularism, fearful for the independence of its Legislature, and even more of its Treasury, was up in arms at once. A "Defence Association" was formed among the upper and middle classes to mobilise opposition to the plans of the Colonial Office, and this led to a counter-agitation among the labourers, who supposed that Confederation would benefit them. Hennessy, whose zeal and energy were not supported by good political judgment, had given some encouragement to this belief; and in April, 1876, the astonishing spectacle was seen of widespread rioting by negroes who understood that in robbing provision fields, sacking plantation houses, and destroying livestock, they were carrying out the wishes of the representative of the Queen. Hennessy showed promptness, firmness and temperance in suppressing the disturbances, and the casualties were not large—eight killed and thirty-odd injured; figures very similar to those in the 1937 disturbances, which preceded the appointment of the Moyne Commission. In neither case was any white person killed.

After Hennessy had been diplomatically transferred to another

Government, the extreme political tension in the Island was eased. The Barbadian political system appeared to have emerged from the crisis intact; but, after an attempt to secure for the Government official representation in the House of Assembly had failed, a compromise was reached in the Executive Committee Act of 1881. By this scheme, the Governor was required to call in his Executive Council, four members of the Assembly and one of the Legislative Council, to form an Executive Committee for the discussion and transaction of financial business, and the consideration of legislative measures at large.

In the absence of further acute conflict between the two branches of the Government the plan worked fairly well, until, in quite recent times, an enlarged franchise and a more widely diffused political consciousness exposed its weaknesses. During the late war the failure of the Executive Committee to keep the confidence of the House of Assembly produced a virtual legislative deadlock. The recent experiment, inaugurated in 1946, is an attempt to solve this, by requiring the Governor to ask the person best able to command a majority in the House of Assembly to suggest what members of the House shall sit in the Executive Committee—thus tentatively establishing without any legal alteration in the constitution, something like responsible party government.*

The 'eighties were a period of depression in world trade. From 1885 onwards, mainly owing to competition from bounty-fed sugar, Barbados was in the grip of an agricultural crisis. In 1894 the price of sugar fell to 9s. a hundredweight, and the next year the Bourbon cane, for so long the planters' standby, succumbed to the drought and moth borer. In such circumstances men were less inclined to favour constitutional than economic and social reform. Two measures of constitutional interest—a private member's Bill to retrench by amalgamating the offices of Governor and Colonial Secretary, and a similar Bill to exclude the Auditor-General from the House of Assembly and the Executive Committee—caused a little stir, but did not reach the Statute Book.

In 1896 a Royal Commission was appointed to investigate conditions in the West Indies. It had many important results, although some of these were long delayed. An Imperial Department of Agriculture was set up with headquarters in Barbados in 1898; John R. Bovell, of the local Department of Agriculture, was stimulated in his search for new varieties of cane. The disappearance of the Bourbon cane might have proved a permanent disaster, not only for Barbados, but for the whole West Indies, had it not been for Bovell's demonstrating that cane "arrows" or flowers, produce fertile seed, and that by cross-breeding many varieties of improved cane could be propagated from seed. The British West Indies Cane Breeding Station is now established in Barbados and is a memorial to Bovell's genius. In 1902 the sugar bounties were abolished and the Imperial Government made a gift of £250,000 to the West Indies, of which £80,000 fell to Barbados. This amount was at first administered by Commissioners as a loan fund for the benefit of

* For this, and other developments during and since the war, see Annual Report for 1947, Part I, Chapter 1, and Part III, Chapter 3.

sugar estates, and became in 1907, the nucleus of the capital of the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank. Meanwhile, the Court of Chancery was working at full pressure. Very few estates were abandoned or cut up and sold in lots, but on all the number of workers and the level of wages were necessarily reduced. With the population at 182,000, or 1,000 to the square mile, and a one-crop economy, this meant not only increased unemployment, but destitution. On top of this came the hurricane of 1898, not causing much loss of life, it is true, but adding greatly to the prevailing distress, especially among the labouring classes.

The price of sugar fell below a dollar a hundredweight. In 1902 there was an epidemic of smallpox. In 1905-6 the Imperial troops were withdrawn, which meant an annual loss of nearly £80,000.

Under this economic pressure the absentee proprietors who, at the time of the visit of the Royal Commission owned one-third of the acreage of the Island, dropped out of the race. They were succeeded by a set of new men who brought a new spirit and new methods of rehabilitation of the sugar industry. The need for economy and efficiency led to the creation of a number of factories controlling groups of estates. Moreover, after 1900 there was a great wave of emigration from among the lower-middle and the labouring classes to the United States and the Panama Canal works. Between 1906 and 1910 the remittances of these emigrants averaged well over £65,000. Several estates were cut up in lots and sold to the returned emigrants or their relatives. By 1913 there were 13,000 peasants who owned lots of five acres and under.

In 1913 the exodus to Panama ceased, but during the 1914-18 war and for some time after there was a boom in sugar and the prosperity it brought continued until about 1930. It was evident in the improved standard of living. An income tax was instituted in 1921.

By 1930 economic distress was again making itself felt, and in 1937 Barbados had its share of those disturbances which occurred throughout the West Indies. In that year a Royal Commission was sent to the West Indies, and from its labours, and the reforms produced, dates yet another period in the social and political development of the Colony.

Chapter 3 : Administration

Barbados possesses representative institutions, but not complete responsible Government. The Crown has only a veto on legislation, but the Secretary of State retains his appointment and control of Public Officers, except the Treasurer, who since 1710 has been nominated by the House of Assembly.

The Legislature consists of the Governor, the Legislative Council, consisting of ten members appointed by His Majesty, and the House of Assembly, consisting of 24 members (two for each parish and two for the city of Bridgetown) elected for a period of two years. The House of Assembly was constituted in 1639 and is the oldest colonial

legislative body after the Bermuda House of Assembly. In 1944 the income qualification for voters was reduced from £50 to £20 per year, and the franchise was given to females, who also became eligible for election as members.

The executive part of the Government is vested in the Governor and an Executive Council and, in respect of certain matters, an Executive Committee. In actual practice, apart from advising the Governor with regard to the exercise of the Royal prerogative of mercy, nearly all the Executive Council's functions are discharged by the Executive Committee. The Executive Council consists of the Colonial Secretary and the Attorney-General *ex officio*, and of such other persons as His Majesty may appoint. The Executive Committee, which is created by local statute, consists of the Executive Council *ex officio* and of one member of the Legislative Council and four members of the House of Assembly appointed by the Governor at the commencement of each session of the Legislature. The Executive Committee introduces all money votes, prepares the estimates and initiates all Government measures; it is also responsible for the conduct of public works, and the control and management of Government property.

Until 1946 the Attorney-General, who is a full-time Government officer, was expected to stand for election for the House of Assembly and to take charge of Government business in the House of Assembly. In his speech when proroguing the Legislature at the end of 1946 the Governor stated that in future the Officer administering the Government would at the beginning of each session send for the member of the House who in his opinion was best able to command a majority in the House and would invite him to submit the names of four members of the House of Assembly for appointment to Executive Committee. At the same time the permission granted to the Attorney-General to seek election was withdrawn and the responsibility for the conduct of public business in the House of Assembly placed in the hands of those members of Executive Committee appointed from the House.

The Governor has the right to address the Legislature at any time, but this right is usually exercised only at the opening or close of the session. On other occasions the Governor communicates with either Chamber by a Message which is presented to the Chamber by a member of the Executive Committee. Communications from either Chamber to the Governor take the form of an Address which must be approved by a majority vote. The House of Assembly has no standing committee of finance and any application by the Governor-in-Executive Committee to approve expenditure, which is not authorised by an Act or in the annual Estimates of the Colony, must be approved by resolution of the Legislature before expenditure can be incurred.

The Island is administered as one unit except in respect of local government matters, which are in the hands of the Vestries and Parochial Boards of the eleven parishes. The Vestries are elected annually, and each Vestry appoints Commissioners of Highways, Commissioners of Health and Poor Law Guardians for the parish. The two last-named bodies rely for revenue upon grants from the Vestry, but the Commissioners of

Highways, who are responsible for the upkeep of all public highways in the parish which are not maintained by the Central Government, collect all vehicle and highway taxes, and, in addition, receive grants-in-aid from the Central Government. The Vestries derive their revenue mainly from taxes on ownership and occupancy of land and houses and trade tax; the rates for these are fixed annually so as to bring in sufficient revenue to meet the estimated expenditure for the year. The Vestries undertake the repair and maintenance of churches and church buildings and the Rector of each parish is chairman of the Vestry *ex officio*.

Chapter 4 : Weights and Measures

The standard of weights and superficial measure is the same as in the United Kingdom, but the local standard measure of capacity is 23 $\frac{1}{2}$ cubic inches to the gallon (known as the wine gallon).

Chapter 5 : Newspapers and Periodicals

<i>Advocate</i>	.	.	.	.	(Daily)
<i>Evening Advocate</i>	.	.	.	.	(Monday)
<i>Recorder</i>	.	.	.	.	(Monday, Wednesday and Saturday)
<i>Observer</i>	.	.	.	.	(Saturday)
<i>Torch</i>	.	.	.	.	(Saturday)
<i>Beacon</i>	.	.	.	.	(Saturday)
<i>Barbados Commerical Journal</i>	.	.	.	.	(Monthly)
<i>Annual Review</i>	.	.	.	.	

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FOR THE YEAR

1949

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The cover illustration shows a barge loaded with sacks of sugar
at Bridgetown

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1949

PART I

Review of 1949

A GENERAL ELECTION in December, 1948, had given the Barbados Progressive League, under Mr. Grantley Adams, a majority of two in a House of Assembly of 24 members. The election of one of the party as Speaker reduced the majority to one. Small though this majority was, it did result in the speeding up of business in the House, and generally speaking Government measures suffered little delay.

Among the first bills passed in the new session was one to provide for the keeping of Government accounts in West Indian dollars and cents instead of in pounds, shillings and pence as from 1st April, thus paving the way for the introduction of a unified currency for the Eastern Group of the British Caribbean. At the same time the form of the Annual Estimates was changed and a separate capital budget was prepared in accordance with recommendations made by the Economic Adviser to the Development and Welfare Organisation. Arising out of a report by Mr. G. H. Adams, C.B.E., formerly Financial Secretary, Nyasaland, on the remuneration and conditions of service of Government servants, legislation was passed early in the financial year revising the salaries and emoluments of the whole service which increased the Government's salary bill by over half a million dollars a year. The opportunity was taken to alter and to simplify the method of creating new offices in the civil establishment.

Among other measures passed was a bill to prolong the life of the House of Assembly from two years to three, and bills providing for the payment of members of the House of Assembly and members of Executive Committee. These last-mentioned bills had been rejected by the Legislative Council during the previous session, largely on the ground that the Government should first obtain a mandate from the electorate. Another bill of importance increased the value of the Barbados Scholarship and raised the number of scholarships from one to five, one of them being open only to girls. The bill also provided for the award of exhibitions tenable at the University College of the West Indies.

On 1st February it was announced that the King had approved the appointment of the Governor, Sir Hilary Blood, K.C.M.G., as Governor and Commander-in-Chief, Mauritius, and he and Lady Blood left the Island on 15th March. In his farewell broadcast, referring to the two years of his governorship, Sir Hilary said "Progress, I believe in the right direction, there has been in no small measure : but I am more concerned regarding three highly important matters in which I hoped to see decisions reached before I left. They are : the re-organisation of local government,

the oil mining industry, and the deep water harbour." Referring to the constitutional changes, he said "I believe that, with perhaps certain modifications, the 'Bushe Experiment' is probably the best way of running this country at its present stage of development." Sir Hilary Blood will long be remembered for the interest he took in the activities of the Island, the personal touch resulting from his visits to every type of institution and above all his keen following of sport.

The abundant rains in the latter part of 1948 produced an exceptionally good sugar crop of 152,731 tons, which was only a few thousand tons less than the Island's record. The weather during the last half of 1949 was variable, but the 1950 crop is expected to be around 140,000 tons.

The road accident rate throughout the Island compares favourably with other parts of the world. The narrow and congested streets of Bridgetown and the winding roads of the country prevent excessive speed and enforce a degree of caution that is often lacking on straight broad thoroughfares. In spite of this there is no complacency and the road safety campaign was carried a stage further in April by the erection of a number of "Stop—Major Road Ahead" signs at cross roads throughout the Island. This measure met with an immediate response from the motoring public and has proved to be extremely successful and surprisingly popular. During the Christmas shopping season mounted police with loud-speaking equipment were used for the first time to control the crowds in the congested shopping area.

The Island had a reminder that it was within the hurricane zone when late on the evening of 30th August a tropical disturbance was reported to be about 180 miles to the south-east and moving towards the Island. Warning flags were flown throughout the following day and the various sections of the Hurricane Relief Organisation stood by. The winds were strong but not of dangerous force and from local observations it was clear that the centre of the storm had passed over the Island shortly before noon, though reports until the late afternoon indicated a disturbance to the south-east. The warning was withdrawn when reports were received that the disturbance had passed the Island. That night, a rain squall, following in the wake of the disturbance, poured down with torrential violence and caused widespread damage from flooding. The worst damage was caused in Bridgetown, where there were eight fatalities in the low-lying area of the Constitution Swamp, which forms a natural catchment area. The flooding was even worse than it would normally have been because at the peak of the storm the flood water was held up by a high tide in the carenage. Accurate measurement of the rainfall was only possible in a few places as the majority of rain gauges with a capacity of 8–10 inches overflowed; it is thought that the variation was between 6 and 13 inches in various parts of the Island.

On 1st November the new Governor, Mr. A. W. L. Savage, C.M.G., arrived in the Island and was received by a huge crowd when he landed and took the usual oaths in the Legislative Council Chamber. In his address His Excellency stressed that there was no short cut to improved living standards, but that the faith and energetic perseverance that con-

ditioned our wartime efforts must be continued in the economic field in peace if our efforts were to succeed.

In September Trans-Canada Airlines offered to operate a regular service at least once a week from Montreal if the Government would undertake to provide adequate landing facilities. A survey of the existing runway at Seawell showed that it was neither strong enough nor long enough for regular use by heavy aircraft, and in December tenders were invited for the construction of a new runway. The inauguration of the Montreal-Bermuda-Barbados-Trinidad service on 2nd December placed Barbados for the first time in direct air communication with North America, but until the new runway is completed calls can only be made at Barbados on the south-bound trip.

In the course of the year the Island was visited by the training cruiser H.M.S. *Devonshire*, and by two frigates of the America-West Indies Squadron, H.M.S. *Whitesand Bay* and H.M.S. *Bigbury Bay*.

Partly because of its good hotel accommodation and amenities, and partly because it is the headquarters of the Development and Welfare Organisation in the West Indies, Barbados is a popular venue for conferences, and among those held there in 1949 were the third session of the Standing Closer Association Committee in June; a meeting of the Preparatory Committee on the proposed unified currency for the Eastern Caribbean and a Meteorological Conference under the auspices of the Caribbean Commission in August; and a conference of Governors of the British West Indian Colonies in November. This conference, which was under the chairmanship of the Minister of State, Lord Listowel, was the first of its kind to be held in the West Indies.

The Island was honoured by the appointment of Mr. Grantley Adams, Leader of the House of Assembly, as a member of the Committee of Experts on the application of the Conventions and Recommendations of the International Labour Organisation. In November Mr. Adams was also elected one of the three vice-chairmen of the Free World Labour Conference, representing the non-self-governing territories.

Three reports on matters of vital importance to the future of the Island were published during the year:

Report on Local Government in Barbados, by Sir John Maude, K.C.B., K.B.E.

Report on Oil Development Policy in Barbados, by Mr. G. W. Lepper, B.Sc., A.R.C.S., F.G.S., F.Inst.Pet,

Report on the Proposed Construction of a Deep Water Wharf, by Sir Douglas Ritchie, M.C., Vice-Chairman, Port of London Authority.

The report on local government proposed the virtual abolition of the Vestry system for administrative purposes and the substitution of a municipal area of Bridgetown, a northern rural area consisting of the parishes of Sts. Lucy, Peter, Andrew, Thomas, Joseph and James, and a southern rural area consisting of parts of the parishes of St. Michael and Christ Church, not included in the new Bridgetown area, and the parishes of Sts. George, Philip and John. Thus the existing 11 Vestries

will be replaced in secular matters by three new area councils. There has been considerable discussion on the report which has been accepted by the Government in principle, and legislation to give effect to the proposals is being prepared.

Arising out of the report on oil development a bill was introduced to vest petroleum rights in the Crown. The bill met with violent opposition in the Legislative Council, but after prolonged debates it was eventually passed by the Council with comparatively minor amendments. Under the bill surface owners are to receive 25 per cent of oil royalties.

No decision has yet been taken on the scheme for the construction of a deep-water harbour at an estimated cost of approximately £3,000,000.

Though Barbados obtains most of her foodstuffs from Canada and has a considerable import trade in other items with the dollar area, the full effects of revaluation had not been felt by the end of the year because most importers had bought well ahead. There was an increase in some ocean freight rates and passenger fares, but it was found possible to bear the increased cost of petrol and kerosene temporarily from an equalisation fund.

The cost of living index figure, on a basis of 100 on 30th September, 1939, was 236 at the close of 1948. This figure declined throughout the year until it reached its lowest point in October and November, at 224, but December showed a rise of 4 points to 228. Over the whole year the average was between 228 and 229 compared with 231 in 1948. The reason for this was that the cost of foodstuffs remained more or less constant and the prices of clothing tended to fall.

PART II

Chapter I : Population

THE total population of Barbados, according to the West Indian Census counted on 9th April, 1946, was 192,841, of which 85,845 were males and 106,996 were females. The previous count was made in 1931 when the population was given as 156,312, with 62,978 males and 93,334 females, which shows an increase of 36,529 during the fifteen years between the counts.

The population was distributed among Bridgetown and the parishes as follows :

Bridgetown	13,345
St. Michael (excluding Bridgetown)	63,091
Christ Church	24,964
St. George	14,414
St. Philip	14,877
St. John	10,106
St. James	11,300
St. Joseph	7,712
St. Thomas	8,500
St. Andrew	7,582
St. Peter	9,131
St. Lucy	7,819
	192,841

The population has continued to increase since the count in April, 1946, and the figure on 31st December, 1949, is calculated to be 207,262, an increase of 14,421 over the census figures, an average of just over 4,000 a year, compared with an average annual increase over the years 1921-45 of 2,435.

This figure is calculated as follows :

Population calculated at 31st December, 1948	202,669
Natural increase—births (6,549) exceeding deaths (2,979) for the year 1949	3,570
Immigration (16,870) exceeding emigration (15,847) for the year 1949	1,023
Total	207,262

The density of population is 1,250 persons to the square mile throughout the Island.

Chapter 2 : Occupations, Wages and Labour Organisation

OCCUPATIONS

The economy of the island depends almost entirely on the sugar industry and the chief occupation of the people is agricultural work in connection with the cultivation and reaping of sugar. It is estimated that between 20,000 and 25,000 persons (male and female) are engaged primarily in the cultivation side of the industry. The majority of these workers were employed on the sugar estates, but a number have small holdings of their own which they also cultivate. There were, in all, over 30,000 peasant holdings of less than 10 acres on more than a third of which sugar cane was planted.

The well-distributed rainfall of 1948 resulted in a fine crop in 1949 of approximately 153,000 tons of sugar or its equivalent in fancy molasses. Only once has the output been greater (in 1939). The reaping season extended from January to the middle of June, although most of the reaping was finished by the end of May. There were 25 sugar factories and 12 syrup plants in operation. Over 2,000 workers were employed in these factories and plants. Occupations ancillary to the sugar industry continue to employ large numbers of workers. These occupations include packaging, transportation and shipment.

The distribution of workers among the main occupations remained unchanged. The approximate employment figures were as follows :

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Sugar Estates	12,000	10,000
Sugar Factories	2,000	200
Domestic and Other Personal Services	2,500	11,500
Retail and Wholesale Trades	5,000	7,000
Construction	7,000	300
Transport and Communications	3,000	100
Manufacturing and Repairing Machinery and Vehicles	2,000	—

The estimated number of unskilled able-bodied men who are either unemployed or underemployed remains at 5,000. The number of women who cannot be fully employed is approximately the same.

This was the second year during which workers for employment in the United States of America were engaged by private employers. Only 205 additional workers were recruited (all for work in Wisconsin), and most of these returned home on the conclusion of their short-term contracts. The workers agreed to refund the cost of their transportation to the United States which was advanced by the Barbados Government. Those who completed their contracts were repatriated free of cost, the expenses being met partly by their last employer and partly by the

Barbados Government. At the end of the year there were 264 men still working in the United States under contracts.

The Netherlands Colonies of Aruba and Curaçao continued to employ a number of Barbadians in their oil refineries. Two hundred and six men were recruited for these two islands (104 to Aruba and 102 to Curaçao). These men were recruited by agents under licence. The Labour Department, through its employment agency, engaged and despatched 31 men for work in His Majesty's Naval Dockyard in Bermuda.

Of the 14 families who were in Surinam at the beginning of 1949, 9 returned during the year. The authorities in Surinam are still anxious to continue further immigration in the light of the experience gained from the experiment initiated in August, 1948.

WAGES

There was no increase in the price of sugar, but in view of the high production of 153,000 tons compared with 78,000 tons in 1948, the Barbados Workers' Union asked that the question of an increase in the rates of wages be referred to arbitration. The arbitrator recommended that the basic rates of wages should remain as they were in 1948, but that a bonus of 6 per cent on total wages of field and factory workers be paid in respect of the period January to June. This award was accepted by the sugar industry as a whole. The cane-cutting rate remained at 57½ cents per ton, and there was no change in the piece rates for cultivation work or in the time rates, which were 17½ cents and 12 cents respectively for men and women.

In the sugar and syrup factories the rates of wages continued to be based on the ton of sugar and the puncheon of molasses and varied with the size and efficiency of the factory. The wage rates for out of crop mechanics fixed by a negotiated agreement remained unchanged as from 1st July, 1948, the effective starting date for the one-year contract.

Wage rates for all categories of port labour remained substantially the same as in 1948, and at the end of 1949 the agreements made in respect of 1948 were still in force as far as they related to basic wage rates. There were a few minor adjustments in certain of these agreements, e.g. those relating to stevedores and steamer warehouse porters.

Consequent on the recommendations of the Civil Service Commissioner, the salaries and cost-of-living allowances of civil servants and other Government employees were consolidated. The revised salaries were paid as from 1st April, 1948.

COST OF LIVING

The table on the next page shows the change in the cost-of-living index from September, 1939, to the end of 1949.

It will be seen from the table that there has been a decrease in the index from 236 in December, 1948, to 228 in December, 1949, with

*

small fluctuations during the year. The lowest point 224 was reached in October and November. The prices of the basic foodstuffs such as salted beef, salted fish, salted pork, flour, sugar, rice, milk (most of which were subsidised), remained substantially the same as in 1948, and the food group index figure was more or less constant. The decrease in the index figure was caused mainly by a reduction in the cost of clothing.

(January–August, 1939 = 100)

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1939 .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	100	110	111	111
1940 .	114	112	113	118	122	121	122	122	122	123	122	123
1941 .	124	124	125	128	129	130	130	131	134	136	136	137
1942 .	137	140	142	145	149	152	153	156	161	164	158	158
1943 .	156	164	162	162	163	166	166	166	170	168	168	168
1944 .	168	169	168	175	175	176	182	186	189	185	186	185
1945 .	185	183	183	186	186	186	187	187	191	189	190	194
1946 .	196	196	196	197	200	200	214	212	215	215	220	222
1947 .	228	224	228	228	225	225	223	223	224	226	226	226
1948 .	226	227	228	228	231	231	232	233	235	236	235	236
1949 .	235	234	235	230	226	227	229	226	225	224	224	228

Housing continued to be a difficult problem for officials, both overseas and local. The renovation and conversion of certain military buildings into civilian flats contributed in a small measure to ease the problem which was still acute at the end of the year. As there is no rent control board in the Island, officers have found themselves faced with the alternative of paying increased rent or having to vacate the houses.

The effect of the devaluation of the pound sterling on the cost of living generally had not begun to be seriously felt when the year ended.

LABOUR DEPARTMENT

The Labour Department continued to function with a small staff. Apart from the Labour Commissioner, who is head of the department, there is only one officer, the Labour Inspector, who is not in the general clerical service; the senior clerk and one of the other clerks, however, carry out certain duties ordinarily performed by labour officers. The branch of the Department which handles the savings of Barbadian workers in the United States was in operation throughout the year; and the six temporary cane-weighing inspectors were again employed to supervise the weighing of canes at sugar factories during the reaping season. This was the fifth successive season during which these inspectors functioned.

LABOUR ORGANISATION

The Labour Department continued to be the scene of Conciliation Board Meetings. As there was no increase in the price of sugar the agreements reached between the Barbados Workers' Union and the Shipping and Mercantile Association as far as they related to wage rates

in the port remained substantially unchanged. During the year a Joint Port Committee with separate Divisional Port Committees for stevedores, lightermen, warehouse porters, etc., were set up. These committees provide machinery for discussion and settlement of difficulties which arise between employers and workers in respect of wages and working conditions. Each committee elects its own chairman, and the secretary is a member of the staff of the Labour Department.

The Congress Trade Union and the Overseer Association were inactive and their registrations were cancelled. No new unions were registered during the year. Of the workers unions registered, the Barbados Workers' Union was by far the most active. The Shipping and Mercantile Association of Barbados, an employers' organisation, was also very active. The Bus Owners Association did not take part in any Conciliation Board Meetings, though it was active behind the scenes. The Sugar Producers' Federation took part in discussions with the Barbados Workers' Union regarding revision of wages in the sugar industry.

LEGISLATION

At the end of the year amending bills relating to the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1943, and the Trade Union Act, 1939, were receiving the attention of the Legislature. The main objects of the proposed Workmen's Compensation (Amendment) Act are the provision of increased benefits to injured workmen and the extension of the salary limit within which a non-manual worker may be considered for compensation. The purpose of the Trade Union Amendment Bill is to provide for "contracting out" of the political levy instead of "contracting in" and to authorise peaceful picketing.

The Sugar Industry (Rehabilitation, Price Stabilisation and Labour Welfare) (Amendment) Act, 1949, authorised, *inter alia*, the investment of accumulations in the Labour Welfare Fund set up under the Principal Act of 1947. The Civil Establishment Act, 1949, simplified the procedure whereby posts and corresponding emoluments may be established or changed from time to time. The Cane Fires (Prevention) Act, 1949, provides penalties for wanton or careless acts causing cane fires with consequent economic loss to the industry. At the close of the year, the Factories Act, 1947, had not yet come into operation by proclamation.

Chapter 3 : Public Finance and Taxation

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE

The revenue of the Colony during the financial year 1949-50 amounted to \$9,553,594, an increase of \$239,352 over the figures of \$9,314,242 for the year 1948-49.

The comparative table of revenue figures for the two years is as follows :

<i>Head</i>	<i>Revenue</i> 1948-49	<i>Revenue</i> 1949-50	<i>Difference</i>
	\$	\$	\$
Customs and Excise	4,450,667	4,743,746	+ 293,079
Taxation	3,272,134	3,071,225	— 200,909
Licences	136,448	73,438	— 63,010
Fines	19,513	11,856	— 7,657
Rents and Royalties	19,515	37,675	+ 18,160
Interest and Redemption . .	79,296	83,723	+ 4,427
Net Revenue from Govern- ment Commercial under- takings	58,682	81,549	+ 22,867
Revenue from Government Departments and Services.	859,345	940,840	+ 81,495
Special Receipts	86,911	509,542	+ 422,631

Expenditure for 1949-50 amounted to \$10,290,424 compared with \$9,847,803 in 1948-49, an increase of \$442,621.

The comparative table of expenditure figures for the two years is as follows :

<i>Head</i>	<i>Expenditure</i> 1948-49	<i>Expenditure</i> 1949-50	<i>Difference</i>
	\$	\$	\$
Governor	23,928	34,336	+ 10,408
Colonial Secretary	42,811	55,435	+ 12,624
Colonial Treasurer	15,667	21,268	+ 5,601
Auditor General	19,358	26,931	+ 7,573
Harbour and Shipping Master	72,457	68,731	— 3,726
Customs	150,897	191,026	+ 40,129
Powder Magazine	512	615	+ 103
Post Office	283,657	—	— 283,657
Public Market	20,799	29,280	+ 8,481
Fire Brigade	27,579	42,631	+ 15,052
Lighthouses	10,653	11,894	+ 1,241
Registration Office	27,680	28,371	+ 691
Legislature	16,401	74,692	+ 58,291
Legal Departments	119,333	155,881	+ 36,548
Police	607,425	691,264	+ 83,839
Prisons	67,949	92,703	+ 24,754
Government Industrial Schools	68,345	40,104	— 28,241
Commissioners of Currency .	25,906	9,781	— 16,125
Ecclesiastical	70,200	95,745	+ 25,545
Education	1,159,730	1,543,193	+ 383,463
Science and Agriculture . .	186,845	231,439	+ 44,594

<i>Head</i>	<i>Expenditure</i> 1948-49 \$	<i>Expenditure</i> 1949-50 \$	<i>Difference</i> \$
Public Library	21,122	27,633	+ 6,511
Medical Departments	806,401	957,871	+ 151,470
Barbados Regiment	20,111	46,993	+ 26,882
Public Works	125,511	190,341	+ 64,830
Public Works Extraordinary	203	—	— 203
Pensions	318,942	438,041	+ 119,099
Charges of Debt	158,140	158,140	—
Subsidies and Grants	199,015	230,492	+ 31,477
Miscellaneous Services	568,704	213,115	— 355,589
Expenditure under Resolution	2,719,377	—	— 2,719,377
Income Tax and Death Duties	187,485	246,445	+ 58,960
Labour Department	12,878	117,535	+ 104,657
Highways and Transport	739,853	733,649	— 6,204
Airport	16,784	33,869	+ 17,085
Government Electric Inspector	15,077	18,365	+ 3,288
Housing Board	12,483	8,257	— 4,226
Peasants Loan Bank	5,766	16,872	+ 11,106
Old Age Pensions	265,583	466,434	+ 200,851
Seawell Plantation	12,198	—	— 12,198
Waterworks Department	608,593	637,691	+ 29,098
Social Welfare	1,158	3,437	+ 2,279
Architect and Planning	14,287	17,272	+ 2,985
Subsidies and Controls	—	1,148,084	+ 1,148,084
Contribution to Part II	—	250,000	+ 250,000
Arrears of Salaries	—	884,566	+ 884,566

The comparative figures of revenue and expenditure for 1948-49 and 1949-50 with the 1938-39 and 1939-40 are as follows :

	<i>Revenue</i> \$	<i>Expenditure</i> \$
1938-39	2,535,734	2,622,115
1939-40	2,685,523	2,688,182
1948-49	9,314,242	9,847,803
1949-50	9,553,594	10,290,424

NOTE: Figures taken from Colonial Treasurer's abstract. The 1949-50 figures have not been audited.

The large expansion in revenue and expenditure compared with pre-war years is due to the fall in the value of money, but also reflects a real improvement in the Colony's financial position and increased services.

BARBADOS
PUBLIC DEBT

The public debt at 31st December, 1949, was \$2,905,728, the sinking fund on that date being \$1,202,076, compared with \$2,905,728 and \$1,109,606 respectively in 1948.

The position in loans is set out below :

<i>Loan and Amount</i>	<i>Amount out- standing</i>	<i>Sinking Fund at 31st Decem- ber, 1949, at Cost</i>	<i>Date redeemable</i>	<i>Rate of interest</i>
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Public Loan Act, 1914 and the Reimburse- ment Act, 1914— \$1,195,200 . . .	177,600	139,980	148,800—1961 28,800—1963	\$52,800 at 4% \$28,800 at 4½% \$96,000 at 5%
General Local Loan Act, 1933, and Public Loans (Redemption) Act, 1933—\$676,416	676,416	383,893	1964	3½% per annum
Waterworks Loan Act, 1935—\$746,400 . .	746,400	330,253	1961	3% „ „
Education Loan Act, 1935—\$397,872 . .	397,872	104,887	1966	3½% „ „
Waterworks Loan Act, 1941—\$169,920 . .	169,920	43,215	1966	3½% „ „
Local Loan Act, 1941— \$326,400 . . .	326,400	83,006	1966	\$321,600 at 3½% \$4,800 at 3%
Public Loans (Redemp- tion) Act, 1942— \$411,120 . . .	411,120	116,842	1978	3½% per annum
	<u>\$2,905,728</u>	<u>\$1,202,076</u>		

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

The statement of assets and liabilities at 31st December, 1949, is as follows :

Liabilities

	\$
Special Funds	1,762,018
Unexpended Balance of loans	129,899
Miscellaneous Funds not applicable to General Revenue but included in the Treasury cash	1,681,844
Unpaid vouchers	103,710
Balance at 31st December, 1949	5,358,365
TOTAL	<u>\$9,035,836</u>

<i>Assets</i>	\$
Cash in Treasury	161,467
Cash in Banks	1,195,121
Due by Crown Agents	3,696,492
Advances	835,000
Due by War Office	10,412
Due by Ministry of Pensions	20,825
Sundry Accounts, Government Savings Bank	60,392
Other accounts receivable	111,853
Advances subsequently to be refunded from Loan Funds	226,834
Barbados Cricket Association (Inc.)	24,000
Investments (market value at 31st December, 1949)	1,696,403
Advance to Barbados Savings Bank	192,000
Advances to public officers for purchase of motor vehicles	54,708
Advances—Seawell and Dodds Plantations	14,951
Advances for capital expenditure to be refunded by Loan Funds	642,838
Advances to be refunded by Development and Welfare Organisation	92,540
TOTAL	\$9,035,836

MAIN HEADS OF REVENUE

Customs Tariff

Specific rates of duty are imposed whenever practicable though, in view of the Island's dependence upon imported food, the duty on food-stuffs is low, especially on those commodities consumed in large quantities.

The tariff rates were greatly affected by the Canada-West Indies Agreement of 1925 which allowed the entry of produce and manufactures from Canada at rates below those on foreign items. Goods manufactured in any part of the British Commonwealth were also included in this preference. The preference was reciprocal and exports from the island have been granted lower rates in Commonwealth markets.

Ad valorem duties range from 1 per cent preferential to 32 per cent general, but on most articles the rates are 10 per cent preferential and 20 per cent general. All rates, both specific and *ad valorem*, are subject to a surtax of 20 per cent except those on articles named in the Trade Agreement of 1938 between the United Kingdom and the United States of America. *Ad valorem* duty is assessed on the factory cost of the item.

Exemption from the payment of customs' duties is allowed on machinery and apparatus imported for use in the manufacture of sugar, rum, cotton, tobacco, etc., and in 1949 the exemption was extended to machinery and apparatus imported for the purpose of irrigating agricultural lands. During 1947 an Act was passed enabling the importation free of duty for a period of three years of articles manufactured from Sea Island cotton grown in the British West Indies. Exemption from duty is also allowed

to fresh fruit, firewood, charcoal, coconuts, lemon and lime juice. These items are imported from neighbouring islands, arriving mainly by schooner.

The baggage and personal and household effects of consuls and consular officers and of public officers in the service of the Crown transferred from any part of the Commonwealth are admitted duty free.

Excise

Rum is the only article on which an excise duty is levied and this is at the rate of \$2.54 per proof wine gallon. In addition there is a distiller's licence of 4 cents per gallon on all rum distilled.

Originally rum was made in Barbados by means of pot-stills, usually producing rum at the strength of 40 per cent overproof. These small stills were established all over the island, but they have now been mainly replaced by patented and modern stills owned by four companies. These factories produce rum at strengths up to 68 per cent overproof.

Stamp Duties

Stamp duties are imposed under the Stamp Act, 1916, and duty is charged on specified instruments set out in a schedule to the Act. The Registrar is appointed adjudicator to decide the amount of any duty to be charged, with an appeal lying to the Chief Judge of the Court of Common Pleas. In certain cases unstamped or insufficiently stamped instruments may be stamped after execution on payment of the full duty and a penalty of \$24. The penalty may be remitted by the Governor-in-Executive Committee.

Stamp duty (12 cents) is required on any agreement or memorandum of agreement above a value of \$24 except for an agreement of wages or the purchase of goods, wares and merchandise. The rate of stamp duty for appraisements or valuation of property varies from 6 cents to \$4.80 depending on the value of the property. The private banks are permitted to issue bank notes on the payment of a licence of \$360. The stamp duty on cheques, receipts of \$9.60 or more, and bills of exchange payable on demand is 2 cents.

Other more important stamp duties are :

	\$	c
Bond for payment of money not exceeding \$240	.60	
„ over \$240 and not exceeding \$480	1.20	
„ for each additional \$480 or part	.60	
Bond of indemnity	2.40	
Transfer of real or personal property depending on value	.24	
	to	.60
Deeds not otherwise described, depending on value	1.20	
	to	2.40
Lease at \$48-\$96 depending on value	.48	
rising to \$720-\$960	4.80	
and for each additional \$240 or part	1.20	
Marriage licence	.48	

\$ c.

Mortgage, bond, debenture, covenant, bill of sale, judgment obtained or confessed	.72
Affidavits and other notarial acts	.24
Life insurance policy	.24
Power of attorney	.60
Appointment or discharge of a trustee	2.40

Occupancy Tax

The occupancy tax, a parochial tax, was abolished during the year.

Income Tax

The rates of income tax for 1949 are set out in the table below :

On every complete pound of taxable income from								£1 to £100 at 6d.
"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	101 " 200 " 1s.
"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	201 " 400 " 2s.
"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	401 " 600 " 3s.
"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	601 " 800 " 4s. 6d.
"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	801 " 1,000 " 5s. 6d.
"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	1,001 " 1,750 " 7s. 6d.
"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	1,751 " 2,500 " 9s. 6d.
"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	2,501 " 5,000 " 12s.
"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	over 5,000 . . . " 15s.

Income tax is not paid by residents on incomes below \$720 per annum in the case of single individuals and \$1,200 in the case of married persons. Deductions are allowed in respect of children under the age of 16 years at the rate of \$240 and over 16 years in respect of children receiving full-time instruction at any university, college or school. A maximum of \$240 is allowed in respect of any other dependant not exceeding two. Deductions are permitted for life insurances not exceeding one-sixth of the total income or 7 per cent of the actual capital sum assured or \$960, whichever is less.

During 1948 an Act was passed by the Legislature designed to give relief from double taxation.

The income tax on companies is fixed at a flat rate of \$1.80 on every pound of assessable income. The rate for life assurance companies is the average of that paid by an individual with a taxable income of \$4,800.

Returns of income are based on the income for the year preceding the year of assessment.

Estate Duty

Death duty is payable under the Estate and Succession Duties Act, 1941, as amended by the Estate and Succession Duties Act, 1949 (No. 22), and the scale is set out in the table below :

Where the principal value of the estate				<i>Estate duty shall be payable at the rate per centum of</i>	
exceeds	\$4,800 and does not exceed	\$14,400		\$1	
"	14,400 " " " "	36,000		2	
"	36,000 " " " "	60,000		3	
				**	

*Estate duty shall
be payable at the
rate per centum of*

Where the principal value of the estate

exceeds	\$60,000	and does not exceed	\$72,000	\$4
"	72,000	" " "	96,000	5
"	96,000	" " "	120,000	6
"	120,000	" " "	144,000	7
"	144,000	" " "	168,000	8
"	168,000	" " "	192,000	9
"	192,000	" " "	216,000	10
"	216,000	" " "	240,000	11
"	240,000	" " "	288,000	12
"	288,000	" " "	336,000	13
"	336,000	" " "	360,000	14
"	360,000	" " "	384,000	15
"	384,000	" " "	432,000	16
"	432,000	" " "	480,000	17
"	480,000	" " "	600,000	18
"	600,000	" " "	720,000	19
"	720,000	" " "	840,000	20
"	840,000	" " "	960,000	21
"	960,000	" " "	1,080,000	22
"	1,080,000	" " "	1,200,000	23
"	1,200,000	" " "	1,320,000	24
"	1,320,000	" " "	1,440,000	25
"	1,440,000	" " "	1,560,000	26
"	1,560,000	" " "	1,680,000	27
"	1,680,000	" " "	1,800,000	28
"	1,800,000	" " "	1,920,000	29
"	1,920,000	" " "	"	30

Relief in the case of quick successions to land or business is allowed at the following rates :

Where the second death occurs within one	year	of the first death	75%
" " " " " "	two years	" " " "	60%
" " " " " "	three	" " " "	45%
" " " " " "	four	" " " "	30%
" " " " " "	five	" " " "	15%

Other Taxation

The other principal heads of taxation are the package tax, tax on motor spirit and diesel fuel used in road vehicles, and the police tax.

The yield from these taxes in 1948-49 compared with 1947-48 was as follows :

<i>Tax</i>	<i>1947-48</i>	<i>1948-49</i>	<i>Difference</i>
Package tax . . .	\$176,504	\$169,493	— 7,011
Tax on motor spirit. . .	\$530,814	\$522,957	— 7,857
Police tax . . .	\$ 17,853	\$ 20,287	+ 2,434

The package tax is levied on the authority of the Package Tax Act, 1941, by which a levy of 12 cents is made for every parcel of goods, wares and merchandise imported into the island or taken out of bond for consumption in the island. There are certain exemptions. Goods and merchandise arriving in bulk are also subject to package tax in accordance with a schedule which sets out the amount of the article that is deemed to be a package, for example, every 5 cwt. of machinery is considered one package and every 500 superficial feet of one inch thickness or less of timber. This tax is collected by the Customs in the usual way, or if the package arrives by post, by the Post Office.

The tax on motor spirit is at the rate of 2 cents per gallon and is collected from the importer who recovers it from the consumer by including 2 cents in the purchase price of each gallon.

The authority for the police tax is contained in the Police Act, 1891. It is in effect a rate levied on landowners. The rate of tax is 16 cents per acre and 4 cents in the pound of the annual rent of houses, but is not levied on both rent and land. The tax is collected by Parochial Treasurers but paid into the Public Treasury.

Chapter 4 : Currency and Banking

CURRENCY

No important change or development in currency took place during the year. A West Indian Currency Conference, under the chairmanship of the Comptroller for Development and Welfare in the West Indies, was held in Barbados in May, 1946, and recommended the establishment of a Regional Group of the West Indies. (The final details were settled in 1950.)

Government currency notes of the denominations of \$1.00, \$2.00, \$5.00, \$20.00 and \$100.00 are in circulation and are legal tender in British Guiana and Trinidad, as are the notes of those Colonies in Barbados. The private banks also issue \$5.00, \$20.00 and \$100.00 notes, although the issue of these notes has been restricted.

Government accounts were kept in sterling, but from 1st April, 1949, they are being kept in dollars and cents. British coin is legal tender and the chief medium of circulation. The British West Indies dollar is fixed at 4s. 2d., that is \$4.80 to £1 sterling.

The total issue of Government currency notes at 31st December, 1949, amounted to \$2,158,040 in the following denominations and amounts :

		\$		\$
629,263	notes at	1.00 . . .		629,263
30,291	„ „	2.00 . . .		60,582
217,663	„ „	5.00 . . .		1,088,315
9,599	„ „	20.00 . . .		191,980
1,879	„ „	100.00 . . .		187,900
				2,158,040

Private Banks

There are three overseas private banks operating in the Colony—Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas), the Royal Bank of Canada and the Canadian Bank of Commerce. The paid-up capital of each is respectively £4,975,500, \$35,000,000 and \$40,000,000, and the head offices are in London, Montreal and Toronto.

Government Savings Bank

In addition to the private banks there is a Government Savings Bank, in which, at the end of June, 1949, there were 38,607 depositors, 1,724 more than in the previous year; the total sum to their credit was \$9,913,935, a decrease of \$210,404 compared with the previous year. There has been a steady increase in the use of the bank in recent years; since 1939 the number of depositors has more than doubled, the total sum to their credit has risen from \$4,506,729 to \$9,913,935, and the value of invested funds from \$5,144,382 to \$10,783,924. The rate of interest paid on deposits is 3 per cent, and since April, 1933, there has been a limit of \$1,440 on new deposits.

On 21st February a travelling bank was inaugurated consisting of a motor van fitted out for use in the outlying parishes. It has proved very popular.

Peasants' Loan Bank

The Peasants' Loan Bank was established in 1937 with a capital of \$480,000 to be advanced from the Public Treasury as the bank from time to time might require. The objects of the bank are to make loans for various agricultural purposes such as irrigation and the purchase of live-stock and manures, to enable the peasant proprietors to bring back into cultivation holdings abandoned through lack of capital. A peasant proprietor is defined as one who owns 10 acres or less. The bank is constituted a body corporate. It is controlled by a board of directors consisting of five members appointed as follows: the Director of Agriculture appointed by the Governor, one member appointed sessionally by the Legislative Council, two members appointed sessionally by the House of Assembly and one member appointed by the Agricultural Society of the Island. The accounts of the bank are audited by the Auditor General, and a copy of his report is forwarded to the Governor and published in the *Official Gazette*. During 1949 loans amounting to \$24,545 were advanced to 430 persons, compared with loans of \$25,809 to 435 persons during 1948.

The Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank

The Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank was established in 1907 and founded on a grant of \$384,000 made by the Imperial Treasury in order to assist the sugar industry of the Colony. The Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank Act, 1907, was replaced by the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank Act of 1943 in order that the usefulness of the money available might be extended to make loans for the carrying on of the management

of sugar factories in the same way as the previous Act authorised loans for sugar plantations and sugar cultivation.

The net profit of the bank for the financial year 1948-49* amounted to \$15,743, compared with \$13,968 in the previous year. The capital of the bank at the end of June, 1949, was \$1,374,883.

The Barbados Co-operative Bank Limited

The Barbados Co-operative Bank Limited is a privately owned bank incorporated in 1938, with a registered capital of \$240,000. During the financial year ending on 28th February, 1949, there were 17,694 depositors in the savings branch, and the balance to the credit of depositors was \$353,084. The bank has a scheme of loans to enable persons to purchase their homes and during the year \$652,341 was advanced.

Chapter 5 : Commerce

IMPORTS

Imports for 1949 were \$33,948,619 compared with \$30,461,904 in 1948; the increase was chiefly due to the increased importation of goods mainly from the United Kingdom. The principal increases were in respect of lumber, boots and shoes, cotton piece-goods, machinery.

The values and quantities of the main items imported in 1948 and 1949 are set out below :

Item	Unit	1948		1949	
		Quantity	Value \$	Quantity	Value \$
Beer, ale, etc.	gallons	186,379	342,331	209,857	351,552
Animal foods	lb.	19,130,547	960,634	18,529,213	803,691
Rice	"	14,792,018	852,019	17,684,833	1,025,721
Flour	"	24,674,636	2,175,398	22,506,092	1,377,924
Pork, salted	"	3,361,867	645,480	3,551,534	710,307
Milk	"	1,685,010	404,405	2,399,168	577,469
Lumber	ft.	5,610,489	685,877	9,990,992	1,333,448
Cotton piece-goods	sq. yd.	2,171,216	1,308,648	3,130,491	1,577,208
Art. silk piece-goods	" "	913,360	758,894	1,185,360	283,058
Hardware	"	—	663,173	—	651,277
Machinery	"	—	1,404,053	—	2,023,130
Motor cars and trucks	no.	588	1,023,864	512	868,294
Boots and shoes	pairs	164,456	471,528	235,409	563,521
Iron and steel manufactures	"	—	732,326	—	882,979

An analysis of the sources of the imports showed increases in the values from the sterling area, and decreases from the dollar area.

The value of goods from the United Kingdom rose from \$11,950,133 in 1948 to \$13,836,929 in 1949, an increase of \$1,886,796. This increase was due partly to the deflection of trade from the dollar to the sterling areas and to increased prices.

Imports from Australia amounted to \$882,555, an increase over the 1948 figure of \$694,330. The main items were butter and meat of all kinds.

* The year ends on 30th June.

The value of imports from Canada showed a decrease of \$1,306,959, the figures were \$8,018,899 in 1948 and \$6,711,940 in 1949. The main import from Canada, flour, showed a decrease of \$778,003.

Imports from the United States of America showed an increase of \$524,443, the figures were \$3,716,112 in 1948 and \$4,240,555 in 1949. This was due to increased rates of exchange.

EXPORTS

The total value of exports, excluding the transit trade, was \$22,504,975, which was an increase of \$7,873,783 on the 1948 figure of \$14,631,192. The increase was due chiefly to a larger sugar crop.

The following are comparative figures of the quantities and values of the main items of export :

Item	Unit	1948		1949	
		Quantity	Value \$	Quantity	Value \$
Sugar . . .	tons	49,652	5,770,656	126,609	15,714,738
Molasses* . . .	gallons	6,560,630	5,050,416	6,143,926	3,275,316
Rum . . .	"	830,948	1,794,845	642,550	1,208,328
Soap . . .	lb.	598,430	142,426	238,511	36,967
Margarine . . .	"	342,412	143,269	326,868	114,404
Edible oil . . .	gallons	49,365	79,968	40,063	62,122
Cotton lint . . .	lb.	12,084	10,152	58,274	58,274

The main increases were : sugar to the United Kingdom \$7,314,079 and to Canada \$3,060,810 ; molasses to the United Kingdom \$194,584 and to the U.S.A. \$116,786 ; rum to Canada \$124,447.

There were decreases in the case of molasses to Canada amounting to \$1,827,827 and to Newfoundland \$251,557 ; rum to the United Kingdom \$561,129 and to other countries \$149,835.

GENERAL

The prosperity of the island centres on the sugar crop and the prices that can be obtained for sugar and other products arising from the industry. There was an abundant rainfall during 1948 which accounted for the large crop and the increased tonnage of sugar exported.

The large importation of foodstuffs and lumber is essential in an island whose economy is based on sugar and which lacks the space for growing adequate food crops. Although ground provisions are grown, it is not possible for climatic reasons to produce the items which constitute the staple diet of the people—flour, rice and salted pork. The island has no natural resources of timber so that lumber has to be imported for building. Machinery is necessary for the rehabilitation of the sugar industry.

The visible adverse balance of trade, \$33,948,619 imports against \$22,504,975] exports, is \$11,443,644. Such an adverse balance has been an invariable feature of the trade of the island and is in part offset by interest received on capital investments abroad, remittances from Barbadians who have settled overseas, and by the tourist traffic.

* Choice 247,099 gallons ; Fancy 4,143,183 gallons ; Bottoms 1,753,014 gallons.

The value of trade for the post-war compared with the pre-war period indicates not only the increased prices of commodities, but the great advances in the standard of living of the people.

<i>Year</i>				<i>Imports</i>	<i>Exports</i>
				\$	\$
1937	.	.	.	10,659,120	7,192,036
1938	.	.	.	10,017,124	5,848,219
1946	.	.	.	23,963,961	15,082,387
1947	.	.	.	34,199,664	17,832,513
1948	.	.	.	30,461,904	14,631,192

The steady increase in trade was curtailed by the restrictions on imports to meet the dollar crisis ; and the additional restrictions imposed since the devaluation of the pound sterling have further adversely affected trade.

Chapter 6 : Production

AGRICULTURE

Barbados contains an area of about 106,500 acres, of which 88,597 acres are stated in the 1946 Census Report to be occupied by 4,881 farms of one acre and over. The land in these farms is divided as follows : cultivated, 59,043 acres ; other cultivable, 2,150 acres ; pasture, 17,594 acres ; woodland, 1,510 acres, and other land, 8,300 acres. The area under irrigation from wells is 471 acres.

All arable land has been farmed as plantations for generations and has been owned by the occupiers or worked by local attorneys on behalf of absentee proprietors. Plantations vary in size from 10 to 500 acres. During the past thirty to forty years a number of these plantations have been cut up into small holdings and sold to peasants. The number of small plots of under one acre is given as 26,415. Methods of tenure are by complete purchase, incomplete purchase, under will, heir-at-law, as agent for owner abroad, or for deceased owner and otherwise.

Sugar Cane

Sugar cane is grown as the principal crop on all plantations and on nearly all peasant holdings. In 1949 there were 32,705 acres of cane reaped by plantations and an estimated 7,000 acres by small-holders, making a total of 39,705 acres. The actual production of sugar was the equivalent of 152,731 tons made up as follows :

Vacuum Pan Sugars . . .	133,868 tons
Muscovado . . .	1,991 "
Fancy Molasses . . .	16,872 "
	152,731 "

The increase of 74,505 tons over the 1948 output can be attributed to satisfactory and well-distributed rainfall particularly during the period May to December, 1948. Voluntary returns submitted for 92 per cent of the total acreage in plantation canes harvested in 1949 showed that the yield of plant canes and ratoons was 30.20 tons per acre in the Low Rainfall Category; 34.48 tons per acre in the Intermediate Rainfall Category and 37.31 tons per acre in the High Rainfall Category. There were no strikes, either in the field or factory, to interfere with reaping or grinding operations.

No new vacuum pan factories for sugar manufacture have been erected since 1939. During 1949 there were 25 vacuum pan factories, two muscovado factories and 10 fancy molasses steam-driven plants engaged in the manufacture of sugar and molasses.

Cotton

There were 721½ acres of Sea Island cotton reaped in 1949 which produced 162,947 lb. seed cotton, which yielded 58,169 lb. lint. The lint was exported and the seed ground locally, the extracted oil being used as a cooking oil and the residue as a stock feed.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

The stud centres at the six District Agricultural Stations that were established with Colonial Development and Welfare funds have continued to play an important part in improving the quality of the colony's live-stock. The number of services paid for at the six stations during the calendar year 1949 was: bulls 1,688; buck goats 1,398; ram sheep 607, and boar pigs 900. In addition, 170 weaner pigs and 6 calves have been raised and sold to peasants and planters.

The stations have been used, too, as centres for the judging rings which have been organised by the Peasants Agricultural Instructors as a means of teaching the young people better animal husbandry. The judging rings have been very popular.

An up-to-date Central Dairying and Stockbreeding Station has been established on Government lands at the Pine Plantation where dairying in all its aspects is being investigated and the possibilities of developing an economic system of animal husbandry explored. Special emphasis will be laid on dairying as an auxiliary to sugar production. This farm is also being utilised as a centre for the improvement of the island's stock of milch goats, pigs and poultry.

FORESTRY

The only part of Barbados where the old original forest covering of the island still exists is Turner's Hall Wood which occupies an area of about 46 acres. This wood is preserved by statute.

The island is dependent on imports of timber from the United States of America, Canada and British Guiana. The bagasse of crushed sugar cane provides fuel for the sugar factories while firewood and charcoal for

household use are imported from British Guiana and the neighbouring islands.

FISHERIES

With the object of improving the fishing industry, schemes financed under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act and from local Government funds are being implemented. A Fisheries Branch of the Department of Science and Agriculture was established in 1944 and the necessary staff was appointed. An Advisory Fisheries Committee advises the Director of Agriculture on fishery matters.

Schemes which are being operated provide for the maintenance, expansion and development of fisheries production and for marketing and distribution of fish. Fish markets have been erected at Oistins and Bridgetown, and plans have been made for building one at Speightstown. Successful blasting operations to remove obstructing reefs and to facilitate the passage of fishing boats have been carried out at Conset's Channel (St. John), Martin's Bay Channel (St. John), Tent Bay (Bathsheba), Meg's Channel (St. Philip) and Crab Hill Bay (St. Lucy). "Hauling-up" gear has been placed at eight different points along the coast for use in cases of emergency. Beach shelters are being erected at strategic points; four sheds at Martin's Bay, Skeete's Bay, Reid's Bay and Conset's Bay have already been completed.

An experimental fisheries boat has been constructed and is being operated from an experimental station at Reef, St. Michael. Improved methods of fishing, the introduction of new types of fishing gear, improvements in the design of fishing boats, and methods of curing and preserving fish under local conditions will be investigated.

The Fishing Industry Control Act, 1947, was passed by the Legislature to provide for the compulsory registration of all fishing boats.

A loan scheme financed by local Government funds has been in operation since 1943. Under the provisions of the scheme loans are now granted for the building and repair of boats, the purchase of new sail, rope, fishing tackle, etc., on the application of persons who, in the opinion of the Advisory Fisheries Committee, are unable to contribute the entire cost themselves and are dependent on the fishing industry for a living. These loans are interest-free for the first year and for the second year onwards are subject to interest at the rate of 3 per cent per annum. It is estimated that, as a result of this scheme, the fishing fleet has been increased by 155 new boats. Altogether 1,112 loans have been approved for the construction of new boats and repairs to others. Up to the end of 1949, the total sum approved as loans was \$88,913.79, the total sum actually loaned \$82,853.25 and the total sum repaid \$41,634.02.

VALUE OF GOODS AND SERVICES

Dr. Frederic Benham, B.Sc. (Econ.), who prepared a report on the national income of Barbados for 1942, placed the value of the exports of domestic produce at £1,950,000, the retail value of foodstuffs for

local consumption at £630,000, and that of manufactures, public utility services, etc., for local consumption at £1,030,000. The net value of all goods and services produced in Barbados in 1942 was about £5,211,000 plus £374,000 net income from abroad, or £5,600,000 in round figures.

NOTE : See the Barbados Annual Report 1947 for an Appendix under this chapter dealing with the work of the late Mr. J. R. Bovell on sugar-cane breeding.

Chapter 7 : Social Services

EDUCATION

Elementary Schools

There are 124 elementary schools which are entirely maintained by Government funds, supplemented by a grant of \$4,920 contributed by the 11 Vestries towards the upkeep of the school buildings, most of which are owned by the Government, although some still remain vested in the Church and Vestry. The schools are divided into boys', girls', and senior and junior co-educational. There are 15,223 boys and 14,493 girls on the roll. The school-leaving age is 14 years. The school inspectorate consists of two District Inspectors, an Inspector of Handicrafts, an Inspector of Domestic Subjects and an Inspector of Infants' Methods. There is a nutrition scheme which provides a mid-morning snack of milk and biscuits for each child.

Secondary Schools

There are 11 secondary schools—three first-grade and eight second-grade.

The three first-grade secondary schools with an attendance of 750 boys and 365 girls are Harrison College (boys), Queen's College (girls), both day schools in the Bridgetown area ; and the Lodge School, in the parish of St. John, a day school for boys which also has a boarding establishment attached. These schools prepare pupils for the School and Higher Certificates of the Oxford and Cambridge Schools Examination Board. The other eight schools, consisting of four boys', three girls' and one co-educational, are scattered throughout the island, and are attended by 1,002 boys and 629 girls. The pupils of these eight schools enter for the School Certificate Examination of the Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate.

Private Schools

In addition to the public elementary and Government-aided secondary schools, there are several well-run private schools for both boys and girls, which also enter candidates for the School Certificate Examination of the Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate. The Codrington High School in the parish of St. John and the Convent of the Sacred Heart in the parish of St. Michael are both day and boarding schools. The pupils of the Codrington High School enter for the School and Higher Certificate

Examinations of the Oxford and Cambridge Schools Examination Board. There is at present no supervision of these schools by the Government.

Administration

The administration of the public elementary and Government-aided secondary schools is the responsibility of the Director of Education who is assisted by one Assistant Director and an advisory board appointed by the Governor. There is a system of local committees of managers of elementary schools, who advise on local school problems, such as necessary repairs to buildings, and assist in the selection of staffs. The secondary schools have governing bodies for the purpose of administration.

Exhibitions and Scholarships

Exhibitions are provided for boys and girls to both first- and second-grade secondary schools from Government and Vestry funds.

The Government Scholarships and Exhibitions Act, which was passed in September, 1949, provides annually for five Barbados Scholarships, two University College of the West Indies Exhibitions and two Island Scholarships.

Four of the Barbados Scholarships are for boys and one for a girl and the winners are required to attain a standard equal to that prescribed by the Colleges of Oxford and Cambridge for the award of open scholarships tenable at such colleges. The value of each scholarship is \$1,920 per annum and may extend over a period of three to six years. In addition a sum of \$240 is granted to each scholarship holder to assist in defraying travelling and other incidental expenses.

The University College of the West Indies Exhibitions, each of the value of \$1,080 per annum, are awarded on the results of the entrance examination held by the University College of the West Indies.

The Island Scholarships, each of the value of \$336 per annum, are awarded on the results of an examination set by the authorities of Codrington College in consultation with the Director of Education.

Training of Teachers

The first group of students went into residence at Erdiston College on 19th January, 1948, although the model school for practice teaching was not then quite ready for use. On the completion of this building the college was officially declared open by His Excellency the Governor on 4th November, 1948. There are 16 men and 16 women now in residence at the college. These students, who have all had some teaching experience in elementary schools, are given a course of training in modern methods. In addition, four day students from the staffs of aided secondary schools are now admitted annually to the training courses. The college has a staff of principal, vice-principal, woman tutor, lecturer and visiting instructors for special subjects such as physical training and visual education.

In addition classes in art are held on Saturdays during term time and Easter vacation refresher courses are well attended. Courses in

physical training, domestic science, handicrafts, school administration, intelligence testing and certain academic subjects are offered.

Teachers' Examinations

In addition to the Certificate of Training awarded to successful students at Erdiston College, there are two qualifying examinations for non-graduate teachers in elementary and secondary schools :

- (i) Certificate B includes academic work up to the School Certificate standard together with school method and the principles of education.
- (ii) Certificate A is awarded on the results of work executed by teachers in connection with their school duties. The practical work involved is inspected by the officers of the Education Department who also examine the theses submitted by candidates at the conclusion of the project.

Adult Education

The Barbados Evening Institute, controlled by the Department of Education, provides classes up to Intermediate B.A. standard in academic subjects, commercial classes and courses in domestic science, building and architecture, motor mechanics and electricity. In addition there are discussion groups and literacy classes.

The Resident Tutor of the University College of the West Indies organises short courses and single lectures on cultural subjects.

The British Council provides adult education in music, art and literature by means of concerts, exhibitions and lectures, and subsidises further educational work through such local bodies as the Association of Cultural Societies.

University Education

Codrington College, founded in 1710, under the will of General Christopher Codrington, who was born in Barbados, is under the control of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, and is affiliated to Durham University. It admits candidates to general, classical and theological degrees of that University.

Visual Education

Training in the use and maintenance of visual aids continues at Erdiston College, while both elementary and secondary teachers received instructions through Easter and summer vacation courses.

Of all mechanical media the filmstrip projector was the most widely used in the schools through a touring visual aids unit. Teachers made their own choice of subject material from the departmental library.

Six additional filmstrip projectors were recently purchased by the Department.

During the year a photographic darkroom was set up to encourage local preparation of filmstrip material. A filmstrip "Nutrition Scheme in the Public Elementary School" was produced and is now being used in the schools. Other strips on "Pottery", "Sugar Cane Industry",

"Agriculture and Farming Industry of Barbados" and "Fishing" are now in preparation. Five hundred photographs on aspects of life in Barbados have been taken and 200 10" x 8" prints were made to form the nucleus of a photograph library.

During the year the mobile cinema unit covered 3,892 miles, and gave 197 displays to the country districts, almshouses, public institutions, evening institute, government farms, and parent-teacher associations. Its programmes comprised news reels, health films, educational and general interest films, supplied in part by the Central Office of Information, Medical Department and British Council.

Vocational Education

There are no technical schools in the Colony. Some technical training is provided by the Board of Industrial Training under the Apprenticeship Bursaries Act, 1928. In this system the training is confined to placing the apprentices under master workmen who give them a five-year course and present them for examination at the end of each year. The Director of Education is a member of the Board. The whole system of vocational education has been under review by a committee appointed by the Governor, and recommendations were submitted for a more advanced form of technical and vocational education. Cooking classes, laundry work and general housewifery are carried out in most of the girls' schools and a number of the schools have moderately well-equipped kitchens in which the senior girls are given three-year courses in general domestic science. These classes are conducted by teachers trained at the Housecraft Centre.

The classes at the Housecraft Centre are well attended. The officer in charge is attached to the Department of Education. Here the organisation of the domestic science curriculum for the island is planned. At the same time classes are given to those teachers who are responsible for the teaching of domestic science in their schools.

Evening classes in commercial and certain technical subjects are offered by the Barbados Evening Institute.

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

The British Council

The British Council first sent a representative to Barbados in 1945 and since then has continued to promote interest in cultural activities in the Island. A number of exhibitions, including displays of photographs, were held which were well attended. In addition, the British Council did much in providing periodicals to schools and societies and in supplying books for the libraries of secondary schools and in collecting reference books on social and technical subjects.

A 16-mm. film projector was used to show documentary films on the British way of life and educational films of scientific interest to schools and the general public. Films were also loaned to the Government mobile cinema van. A close co-operation was maintained with the Museum and an epidiascope provided for use in schools. Pictures were also lent

to schools and the Public Library, and these were changed periodically to give variety.

A library of good and representative music has been built up and scores are lent to choirs and musical societies, as are selections from the library of gramophone records.

The Museum and Historical Society

The Barbados Museum and Historical Society was incorporated by a special Act of the Legislature in 1933. The Government gave the society a lease, for 90 years, of the old abandoned Military Prison. The Museum is one of the best in the West Indies. The work began in 1933 with the aid of a grant of £1,500 from the Carnegie Corporation of New York and smaller grants from the Barbados Government. About £5,000 has been spent on buildings to house the collections of books, pictures, models, specimens of birds and fishes. There is also an excellent collection of pottery, axe heads, etc. derived from the original Arawaks of the Island and a fine collection of Carib stone implements. A great deal of interesting material of this kind lies buried in those districts which were inhabited by the Arawak Indians and awaits the time when someone will be available to unearth it. A recent development, the Children's Museum, continued to be a great attraction and special visits for school children were arranged. The society publishes a quarterly journal which is now in its fifteenth volume.

The services of a full-time curator have been obtained and he took up his appointment during the year.

Public Library

In Bridgetown there is a free Public Library which dates its foundation from the passing of the first Public Library Act on 21st October, 1847. The Library is supported by public funds.

There are over 19,000 registered borrowers on the records and the book stock numbers just over 50,000 volumes. During the year ended 31st March, 1949, a total of 266,956 books were circulated.

In order to extend the scope of the library, seven deposit stations have been established in the country areas in addition to a Branch Library in Speightstown which was opened on 23rd March. A scheme has also been started to supply carefully selected books for the setting up of libraries for the use of the pupils in the rural elementary schools.

The Public Library has received substantial help from the Eastern Caribbean Regional Library (British Council) both through the presentation of books and through the training of a member of the Public Library staff for the entrance examination of the Library Association.

Association of Cultural Societies

An Association of Cultural Societies was formed towards the end of 1947 and a number of societies have become affiliated members. The association assists the cultural societies and clubs, particularly by arranging lectures, exhibitions and musical evenings.

A series of lectures were given during the year and among the subjects

were English literature, biology, the approach to music and architecture, elements of play production and a series on around the world and famous Barbadians.

The association has also sponsored several broadcast programmes over the radio diffusion service including quiz competitions, Radio Forum and poetry readings.

HEALTH

The health of the Colony was average throughout the year. There were no epidemics of any serious disease. The death rate showed a slight decrease on the previous year. The chief causes of death were the diseases of early infancy, infective and parasitic diseases and diseases of the circulatory system.

Medical attention was given to the poor and destitute by 13 part-time Parochial Medical Officers, appointed and paid by the 11 Vestries of the Colony.

The Barbados General Hospital operates as a department of Government under the provisions of the Barbados General Hospital Act, 1947 (No. 28), and the staff is composed of the following :

Wholtime : One Medical Superintendent, one surgeon specialist, one radiologist.

Part-time : Three visiting surgeons, three assistant visiting surgeons, one ophthalmic, ear, nose and throat surgeon, one assistant ophthalmic, ear, nose and throat surgeon, one house surgeon and anaesthetist, three house surgeons, one medical officer, Venereal Disease Clinic, one assistant medical officer, Venereal Disease Clinic, three out-patient medical officers, one dental surgeon.

Nursing : One matron, one assistant matron, one sister tutor, three nursing sisters.

The re-organisation of the surgical work of the hospital under the supervision of the surgeon-specialist has resulted in improved services to the public.

The senior nursing staff was not up to its full complement.

The post of radiologist was vacant for the first half of the year under review.

Good conditions prevailed during the year for the growing of locally produced provisions. Price control and subsidisation of flour, rice, salt fish, etc. continued and an adequate supply was maintained. These factors helped to maintain the nutritional level of the general population.

The Department of Medical Services Act, 1947 (No. 14), and the Quarantine Act, 1947 (No. 38), mentioned in the last Annual Report, have not yet been proclaimed. Further consideration by the Legislature was not given to the modern public health legislation mentioned in the last Report. It is envisaged that public health progress will be brought about by an improved local government structure linked with expert Central Government agencies.

Communicable Diseases

Enteric Fever. Sixty-nine cases were notified compared with 98 in the previous year. The issue of model latrines continued during the year. Contacts of cases are immunised.

Tuberculosis. Ninety-three cases were notified compared with 101 cases in the previous year. The problem of control remains difficult, but it is hoped that modern public health practices based on health centres, soon to be instituted, will effect a real improvement.

Dysentery. Twenty-one cases were notified compared with 15 last year. No differentiation as to the type of dysentery was made, but amoebic dysentery is less common than bacillary.

Diphtheria. Fourteen cases were notified compared with 12 last year. Diphtheria toxoid is supplied free to medical practitioners. When Health Centres are established it is hoped to extend the immunisation campaign to school children.

Cerebrospinal Meningitis. Six cases were notified compared with two during 1948.

Leprosy. Three cases were notified compared with two the previous year. The use of sulphetrone has given encouraging results.

Poliomyelitis. Four cases were notified during the year.

Veneral Diseases. The principal venereal diseases were syphilis and gonorrhoea. These diseases are not notifiable and exact figures cannot be given.

Institutions

The Barbados General Hospital. The accommodation at the Hospital does not suffice for the needs of the community and the question of enlarging and improving the present hospital or the provision of a new one is under consideration.

The Mental Hospital. Thirty-five dormitories, 6 day rooms and 391 single rooms supply the accommodation for patients and of these four dormitories and eight single rooms were constructed on the male and female side during the year. At the end of 1949 there were 733 inmates in residence, 430 females and 303 males.

The Leper Hospital. During the year the treatment of patients with sulphetrone was continued. The beneficial effects of this treatment is apparent not only on the disease but also on the mental outlook of the patients. At the close of 1949 there were 38 inmates in residence, three patients were discharged as cured.

The Prison Hospital. This hospital is in charge of a visiting physician. There is accommodation for men and women.

The Government Industrial Schools. The health of the children continued satisfactory during the year. The medical work of these institutions is carried out by a part-time visiting physician.

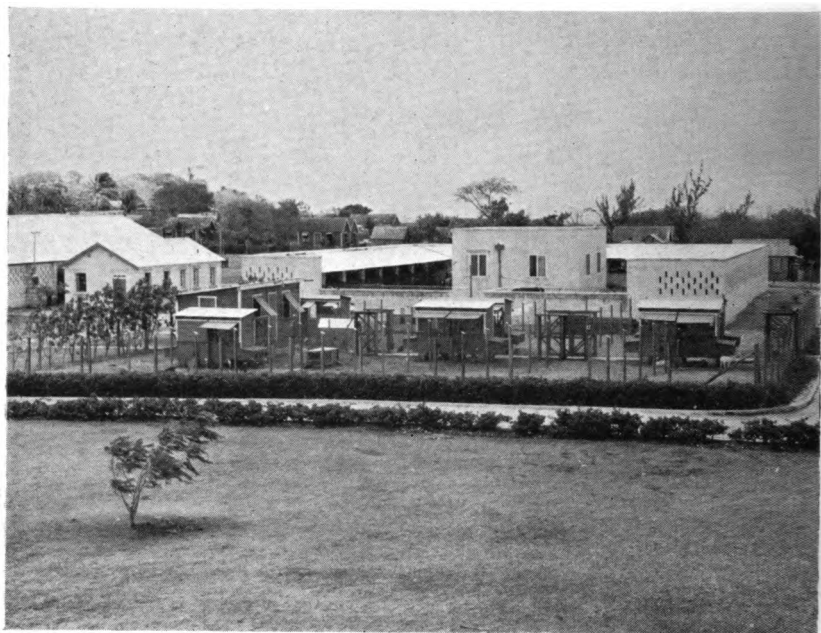
The Maternity Hospital. This hospital is intended primarily as a training school for midwives. It has accommodation for 20 expectant mothers. For the year ending December, 1949, there were 361 deliveries. The hospital also carries on an ante-natal and post-natal clinic. It is



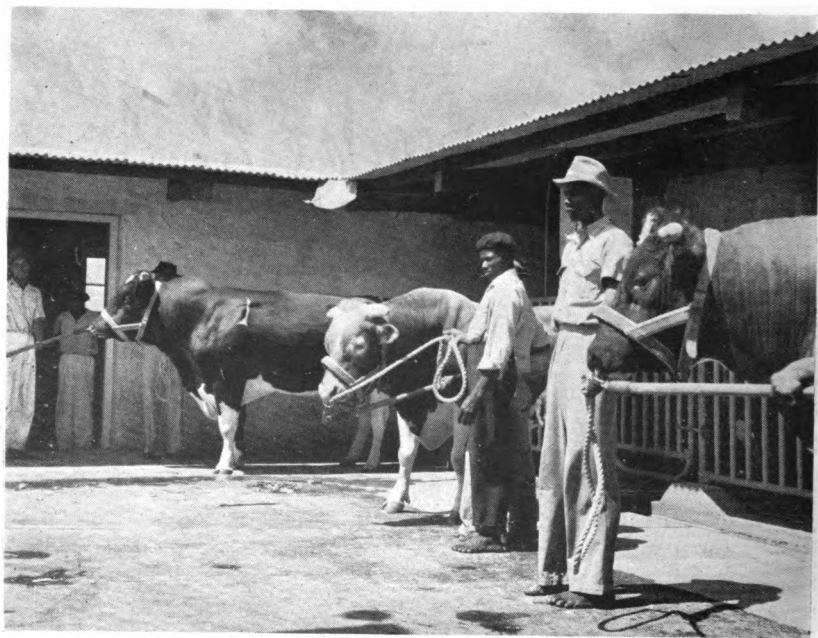
THE BEST HOUSES IN THIS BRIDGETOWN SLUM AREA ARE BEING LIFTED AND TRANSPLANTED TO THE NEW BELFIELD ESTATE



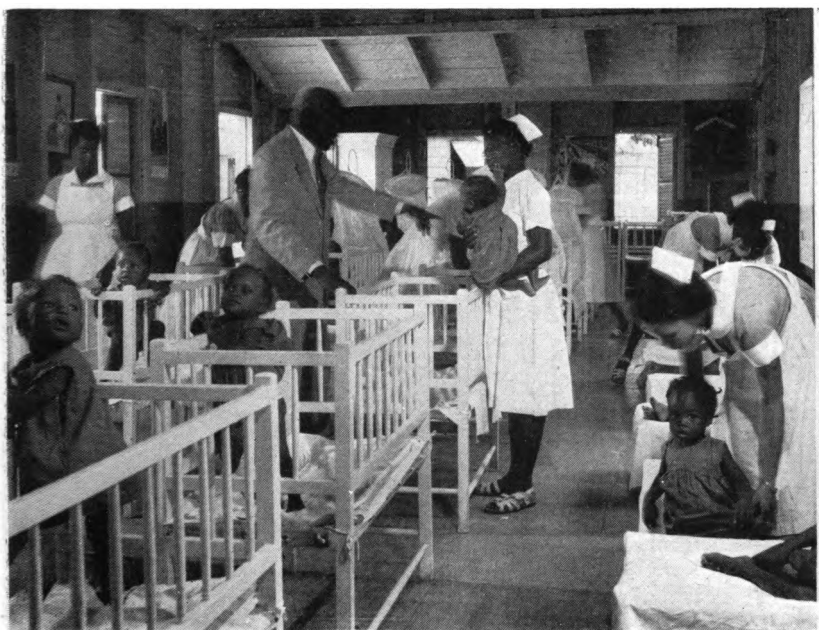
HOUSES AS THEY NOW APPEAR AT THE BELFIELD ESTATE



CENTRAL LIVESTOCK FARM AT PINE, BARBADOS



**SOME OF THE FINE BULLS OWNED BY THE CENTRAL
LIVESTOCK FARM**



BRIDGETOWN CRÈCHE



A COOKERY CLASS AT THE HOUSECRAFT CENTRE



THE GOVERNMENT LAUNCH



COOPERS AT WORK

under the charge of a visiting obstetrician and a matron, who are responsible to the Chief Medical Officer for the conduct and training of the pupils.

Parochial Almshouses. There are 11 almshouses, one in each parish, for the care of the destitute sick and for the housing of the aged and poor. The Parochial Medical Officers maintain a high standard of medical care in these institutions. The administrative duties are in the hands of the churchwardens and Boards of Guardians who execute their responsibilities with care and interest. The maintenance of buildings continues to be good in general.

Hygiene and Sanitation

The administration of hygiene and sanitation remains in the hands of the 11 separate and independent Boards of Commissioners of Health appointed by the Vestries. These are lay boards without the guidance or advice of a public health officer. Under such conditions progress is necessarily slow.

Pupils of the elementary schools continue to receive instruction in hygiene and sanitation.

Elementary school children receive adequate dental and visual treatment.

Training of Health Staff

During the year two sanitary inspectors and one health visitor returned to the Island from Jamaica where they had been sent for a course in public health training. One health visitor remained to take a course in midwifery. In September two more sanitary inspectors and two nurses were sent to Jamaica for a similar course. One nurse left for the United Kingdom under a scheme for training ward sisters for the University College Hospital, Jamaica.

HOUSING

The Housing Board operates under the provisions of the Bridgetown Housing Act, 1936 (No. 8). Legislation to establish a Central Authority for the entire Colony with powers in relation to slum clearance and town planning was introduced into the Legislature which has not yet given it final consideration.

Sixty-eight houses, removed from congested areas, were placed in the Belfield area in the suburbs of Bridgetown. They were provided with sanitary units and a domestic water supply. This type of development is very interesting and promising.

A further improvement was made in the Deacons Road Housing Scheme of 66 houses where the dry earth type of sanitary unit was converted to a water-carriage system.

A pilot scheme of 38 new houses was completed in July, 1949, on the Pine Estate. They were built of coral stone with timber floors, doors and shutters and asbestos roof. Each house has a living room, two bedrooms, a kitchen, bathroom and w.c. The cost of each house was \$2,400

for building and \$960 for roads, water services, drainage and site layout. The high cost of construction and the maintenance of good standards are factors which may defy reconciliation.

An interesting experiment was started by the Architect and Planning Officer in connection with "megcrete" blocks for building purposes, the composition of which is megasse, a waste product of the sugar industry, and lime with a cement finish. A grant of \$2,400 from the Colonial Development and Welfare Organisation has been made further to develop this scheme. House units have been constructed giving rather more accommodation than those in the pilot scheme for an inclusive cost per unit of \$2,160.

SOCIAL WELFARE

General

Social welfare services are carried on mainly as ancillary activities of existing departments: thus the provision of free milk and biscuits for elementary school children is the responsibility of the Department of Education; dental treatment for school children, poor relief services and the care of the destitute and old, that of the Chief Medical Officer etc. The Government Social Welfare Office has a particular responsibility for the development of group and youth movements. This is done by assisting existing voluntary organisations; creating old students' associations based on the schools (there are 33 of these with over 1,000 members) and developing debating and discussion groups.

Child Care

The Baby Welfare Leagues at St. Michael, Christ Church and St. Philip are voluntary organisations which cater for the needs of young children and mothers. They distribute milk and cod-liver oil and provide medical attention for the infants, and advice to the mothers. In addition to private donations, these organisations receive Government and Vestry grants annually. The Children's Goodwill League and Creche works on similar lines. The creche also provides daily accommodation for the children of working mothers. There are six young women in training as nursery nurses. A hot daily meal is given to necessitous school children of the Bridgetown area.

In December, 1947, the Nightengale Memorial Home for children was opened. Dr. H. W. Nightengale, D.D.S., a Barbadian, donated \$5,000 for the purchase of the home. It provides an establishment for the care and training of children who have been deprived of protection, discipline and love which a good home and wise parents provide. At present the Home houses 32 children transferred from the St. Michael's Almshouse ranging in age from 5 to 14 years.

Youth Organisations

There are many well-organised groups and social clubs. Among the more prominent are the Boy Scouts and Girl Guides, the Y.M.C.A., the Girls' Industrial Union, the Young Men's Progressive Club, the

Riverside Club and the Weymouth Club. In addition there are a number of clubs and guilds attached to various religious bodies—the Church Lads' Brigade and the Church Girls' Brigade of the Anglican Church, the Wesley Clubs and Girls' Guildry of the Wesleyan Church.

Work among Women

The chief organisations doing such work are the Barbados Women's Social Welfare League, the Girls' Friendly Society, the Mothers' Union of the Church of England and the Women's League of the Wesleyan Church.

Family Case Work

The Family Welfare Society helps to relieve families in straitened circumstances and ill and handicapped persons. Various religious bodies do work of a similar kind.

Mutual Aid Societies

Friendly Societies. There are 163 friendly societies with a membership of approximately 81,500, but many persons belong to more than one society; dependants number about 376,500. Contributions average \$652,000 annually. These societies provide relief in sickness, assist in the payment of funeral expenses and give a Christmas bonus to "financial" members.

Co-operatives. During the year there has been a marked increase in interest in co-operative ventures, especially among small farmers. There are at present 38 groups of cultivators buying artificial fertilisers and six groups buying stock feed co-operatively. Besides these loosely organised groups, there are three flourishing co-operatives, i.e. the St. Silas Men's Co-operative and the Christ Church Peasants' Co-operative which carry on a wide range of activities among the cultivators of these areas, and the Shamrock Credit Union started by the St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church and serving the credit needs of its members who are mainly urban workers and salary earners.

There are several groups from various walks of life in the process of organisation, and it is hoped that, now a comprehensive Co-operative Societies Bill has passed the Legislature, the development of co-operative societies should make rapid progress.

Relief of the Destitute and Disabled

Old Age Pensions. The first Old Age Pension Act came into operation on 1st May, 1938, and made provision for the payment of pensions to persons who had reached the age of 70 years at a maximum rate of 36 cents per week, with a means test of 96 cents. By amending Acts the qualifying age has been reduced to 68 years, the pension has been made available to blind persons at the age of 40 years, and the pension and the means test have been increased to \$1.20 and \$1.75 a week respectively. During 1949 the sum of \$399,261 was paid in old age pensions to 7,251 persons, and administrative expenses were \$10,677.

Parochial Poor Relief. The total number of persons who received

parochial poor relief for the year ended 24th March, 1949, was 19,626 at a cost of \$540,688.43.

An almshouse (which for practical purposes is equivalent to a cottage hospital also) is maintained in each parish of the Island. The number of persons admitted for relief into the almshouses was 748 on account of destitution and 3,005 for indoor medical relief.

The care and maintenance of the infirm, aged and destitute poor is a duty of the Vestry of the parish in which such persons are domiciled. The Poor Relief Act, 1892, established the organisation which respective Vestries have to create for carrying out these duties, but each Vestry has very wide discretion in the manner of carrying them out. The Poor Law Board—a Government department—is required by the Poor Relief Act to satisfy itself that the provisions of the law relating to the Vestries, and all other Acts for the time being in force relating to these duties, are carried out. Regular inspections of the parochial poor relief organisations, including institutions, are made at least twice a year by the Chief Medical Officer, who reports when necessary to the Governor, the Poor Law Board, and/or the Poor Law Guardians, the last-named being the appointees of the Vestry, who are charged with these duties.

The Barbados Association in Aid of the Blind, the Deaf and the Dumb. The Association was founded in 1943; it is compiling a register, the first of its kind, of all the blind, deaf and dumb persons in the Island.

The Association is at present concentrating on the training of the deaf and dumb in the school-age group. Four deaf and dumb children are now at school in Trinidad. These children are supported partly by Vestry and Government grants, partly by funds from the Association, and by help from the families, friends or people interested in the welfare of the children.

A blind man was sent in May to Trinidad to be trained in craft work and in the reading and writing of Braille, so that he may be able to return to the Island and give other blind persons the benefit of his training.

Labour Welfare Fund. During 1947 an Act was passed imposing a levy on sugar and molasses made in the Island. Part of the levy, \$2.40 per ton of the sugar produced, was used to create a fund to be used for welfare purposes for the "benefit of workers in the sugar industry." By the end of 1949 there was \$817,728 in the Treasury to the credit of the fund. It was decided that \$400,000 of that amount be used to create a Housing Loan Fund, and \$300,000 be allocated for the provision of community halls and playing fields, one in each Vestry area. During the year work was started on the Reef Playing Field (St. Michael) and the Belleplane Playing Field (St. Andrew).

Other Institutions

The Salvation Army. The Salvation Army has 11 thriving corps in the Island. Their headquarters have night shelters for men and women. The Chief Probation Officer and the female Probation Officer are officers of the Salvation Army.

Seamen's Welfare. The Royal and Merchant Naval Welfare League, the Port Welfare Committee and the Seamen's Club cater for the welfare of seamen.

The St. John Ambulance Brigade. The Barbados District of the St. John Ambulance Brigade Overseas continues to serve the community in many ways, i.e. helping at Baby Welfare Leagues and at public functions whenever the first-aid squad is likely to be necessary. There are seven nursing divisions and one ambulance division.

The following institutions are supported by private donations and subscriptions :

Ladies' Association for the Relief of the Indigent Sick and Infirm.
 The Goodridge Home for Distressed Gentlemen.
 The Bessie Yearwood Home for Orphans.
 The Haynes Memorial School (formerly the Daily Meal School).
 The Almair Home for Elderly Gentlewomen.
 The Home for Elderly Gentlemen.

The following are supported by funds from various religious organisations : the St. Mary's Home for Elderly Women, the St. Paul's Home for Elderly Women, and the St. Matthias Poor House are maintained by the Church of England ; the St. Vincent de Paul Society and the St. Patrick's Poor School are supported by Roman Catholic Church funds.

Juvenile Delinquency

The incidence of juvenile delinquency in Barbados is low in comparison with countries in Europe and the Americas, and the offences reported are seldom of a serious nature.

The Juvenile Court has jurisdiction over the 7-16 age group, and 457 children and young persons, 235 of whom were found guilty, appeared before courts of this type during 1949. The island population in this age-group is 39,993 (1946 census).

Offences fall into three categories :

Those against property, which accounted for 119 (including 75 larcenies and 10 housebreakings).

Those against the person, which accounted for 256 (including 177 minor assaults and beatings).

Miscellaneous breaches of Highway Acts, etc.—82.

The breaking and entering cases as a rule involve the theft of food and portable property of little value, and more than half the other larcenies comprise the theft of odd sugar cane, coconuts and growing fruit.

The assault cases usually arise from childish quarrels and are further provoked by faulty parental attitudes. A new Rule recently made under the Juvenile Offenders Act gives probation officers opportunity for conciliatory action, and it is hoped that this will reduce considerably the number of minor affairs reaching the courts.

Case disposal presents many difficulties. In accordance with modern

practice, however, due regard is given to the welfare of the offender. Forms of treatment adopted during 1949 were :

Reprimanded	112	Fined	3
Whipped	3	Industrial School	24
Bound over without supervision	3	Parent fined	1
Probation	87	Other methods	2

Juvenile Courts are held in each Police District, wherever possible in rooms separate from the adult courtrooms. A probation officer is always present to advise on the treatment of the offender.

Probation

This form of treatment is widely used by the Courts, and during the year probationers dealt with numbered 319 (147 men, 27 women, 95 boys, 50 girls). The number of new cases added during the year was 161 (64 men, 12 women, 54 boys, and 31 girls). Response to supervision is generally high.

The Probation Service is staffed by 5 officers (3 men and 2 women officers) and a clerical assistant. There is also a male officer undergoing a course of training in the United Kingdom.

In addition to their supervisory duties officers assist the Court by making pre-trial and other investigations. Case-history reports are submitted which prove of assistance to the Magistrate when deciding case treatment, and the officers' help and advice is sought in those cases involving disputes between husband and wife. Assistance is also given when requested in connection with applications for bastardy orders.

The Courts find the Probation Service a valuable adjunct to the dispensation of justice and the steady growth of the system is a mark of its usefulness to the community.

Chapter 8 : Legislation

The year 1949 was a year of considerable legislative activity and one of the first measures was an Act authorising that Government accounts should be kept in dollars and cents instead of pounds, shillings and pence. This measure was the outcome of the West Indian Currency Conference which met in 1946 and made recommendations regarding the unification of currencies in the British territories of the Eastern Caribbean. As the majority of the commercial houses already kept their accounts in West Indian dollars, the change has resulted in unification in the Island itself.

The system by which offices in the Civil Service were established was radically changed by the passing of the Civil Establishment Act. Previously each Department of Government was established by a separate Act ; the establishment provisions of these Acts were repealed and now the offices are established by Order of the Governor-in-Executive Committee, subject to the approval of the Legislature. At the same time the Orders under the Act set out the salaries of the various offices, and the

first series of Orders gave effect to such recommendations of the recent Salaries Commission as were accepted by the Governor-in-Executive Committee.

An Act was passed which brought up to date the law on interpretation. The Act sought to promote brevity and uniformity in the language of statutes and provided rules of construction.

Three Acts were passed which dealt with matters of interest to members of the House of Assembly. These provided for the remuneration of members of the House, the remuneration of members of the Executive Committee, and the extension of the life of the House from two to three years.

An important measure that created considerable controversy was the Therapeutic Substances Act, which was designed to safeguard the community against the misuse of antibiotics by means of a system of licensing of importation, storage, distribution, sale and use of antibiotics and the restriction of dealings in antibiotics to authorised persons.

Towards the end of the year the cumbersome and inadequate Compulsory Powers (Land) Act of 1888 was replaced by the Land Acquisition Act. Under the Act land may be acquired compulsorily by the Governor-in-Executive Committee and by certain statutory bodies by notification in the *Official Gazette* and in a daily newspaper. Compensation may be fixed by agreement or by the Court of Common Pleas in which latter case the Chief Justice will be assisted by two assessors, unless the claimant elects that the matter be determined by the Chief Justice alone. The principles on which compensation should be computed are set out in the Act, the basic idea being that it should be on existing use value of the land in accordance with the standards of value prevailing in the open market. No development value is allowed except in the case of land within close proximity to a town or built up area which is suitable as a building site. Improvements carried out within two years of the notification with the object of increasing the compensation are excluded from the computation.

Chapter 9 : Justice, Police and Prisons

JUSTICE

The Chief Justice of the Island is appointed by His Majesty the King and presides over the Superior Courts, that is to say, the Courts of Chancery, Common Pleas, Ordinary, Divorce and Matrimonial Causes, Grand Sessions, Admiralty Bankruptcy, Escheat and Error.

The Court of Error hears appeals from the Assistant Court of Appeal when that Court has exercised both original and appellate jurisdiction. However, appeals to the Court of Error from the Assistant Court of Appeal on a finding made in its appellate capacity is limited to points of law, though appeals from its original jurisdiction may be made on both points of law and points of fact.

Appeals lie from the Superior Courts mentioned above, except the

Court of Grand Sessions, to the West Indian Court of Appeal. In the case of the Court of Grand Sessions the Chief Justice may in his own discretion reserve any question of law arising during the hearing of any matter before the Court of Grand Sessions for the consideration of the West Indian Court of Appeal. The right of appeal to His Majesty in Council is preserved by section 14 of the West Indian Court of Appeal Act, 1920.

The Court of Grand Sessions sits three times a year in March, July and November. Before a person can be brought before the Court for trial on a criminal charge the Grand Jury must return a true bill.

The Assistant Court of Appeal has original and appellate jurisdiction. Two judges sit together when the Court is in its appellate sessions, but only one judge sits when it is exercising its original jurisdiction. In its original jurisdiction the Court has powers to determine cases of debt in which the value of the claim exceeds \$96 but does not exceed \$240, and in all pleas of personal action where the claim is over \$48 but does not exceed \$240. The Court also possesses powers to deal with limited cases of equity and probate. In its appellate jurisdiction the Court hears appeals from the decisions of the Magistrates and from the Court of the Petty Debt Judge for Bridgetown.

The magistrates preside over the District Police Courts, three hearing the criminal cases that arise in Bridgetown and four hearing those in the other districts of the Island. In Bridgetown there is, in addition to the magistrates dealing with criminal cases, a Petty Debt Court Judge who presides over civil cases. The four district magistrates outside Bridgetown deal with both criminal and civil cases. The magistrates also deal with cases involving juvenile offenders and complaints against children and young persons are heard at special times and in different buildings from the main court and they are assisted by the Probation Officer, who was appointed in 1947.

No cases of exceptional interest either in fact or questions of law were heard during 1949.

POLICE

The recommendations of the Report on the Police Force by Superintendent Calver of the London Metropolitan Police are gradually being implemented, and action is now being taken with a view to bringing into force certain of the recommendations requiring legislative authority, for example, the delegation of authority to the Deputy Commissioner to inflict punishment on members of the Force below the rank of sergeant, the creation of the rank of inspectors, etc.

The establishment of the Force, as authorised in the Civil Establishment (General) Order, 1949, is one Commissioner, one Deputy Commissioner, six Superintendents, three sergeants-major, 19 sergeants, 25 lance-sergeants, 67 corporals and 442 constables, together with 37 writ servers. The actual strength was less than these figures by one Deputy Commissioner, two sergeants, one corporal and 39 constables at the end of the year. Distributed over the island are nine police stations, 10 sub-

stations, two police posts and a guard-house. The change from last year is due to the closing down of three police posts during September and November, as it was considered uneconomical and also a waste of manpower to keep them open.

Four of the larger stations are in wireless communication with the Central Station and all stations are connected by telephone through the police exchange. The transport section consists of 2 heavy lorries, 10 vans and 8 motor cycles.

The total number of cases of all kinds reported to the Police during 1949 was 5,699 compared with 5,798 in 1948. Indictable and minor offences numbered 419 and 2,829 respectively in 1949 and in addition there were 2,351 traffic cases. These figures show a decrease of 43 indictable offences and a decrease of minor offences of 238. There were three cases of murder, compared with seven in 1948, one accused was discharged at the preliminary investigation and two are awaiting trial.

The total number of motor and other traffic cases reported increased by 82. The number of mechanically propelled vehicles increased from 4,270 in 1948 to 4,603 in 1949. As a result of traffic accidents 19 persons were killed, an increase of one over the previous year. Nine thousand six hundred and ten driving licences were issued and renewed.

Cane fires reported numbered 195 compared with 89 in 1948. The acreage damaged was 1,051 compared with 659.

Mounted men with loud hailing equipment strapped on their backs proved a very successful method of controlling the congestion in the streets at Christmas time.

A Police Display was held on the Garrison Savannah on 10th November, 1949. This consisted of eight platoons marching past in different types of uniform, a musical ride by the mounted troop followed by the band and drums beating the Retreat. A crowd of about 8,000 attended.

The Police Band fulfilled 230 engagements during the year and continued to be an outstanding source of pleasure to the community.

PRISONS

There is one central prison, the Glendairy Prison, which houses male and female prisoners in separate compounds, and has cell accommodation for 275 males and 125 females. The establishment consists of the Superintendent of the Prison, 50 male and 12 female prison officers.

Male prisoners are separated as far as possible into first offenders and recidivists and are classified for the purpose of vocational training. Female prisoners do the cooking and laundry for the whole prison.

First offenders are only employed on duties inside the prison and generally these duties are of a lighter nature and may involve vocational training under instructors in carpentry, tailoring, bread-making, and other trades. Other offenders are employed in stone-quarrying, stone-breaking, horticulture, farming (small stock), and the upkeep of Government lands outside the prison.

Offenders in the first division are permitted to obtain their food from outside at their own expense and may wear their own clothes, and are

employed at light labour within the prison. Prisoners in the second division wear a distinctive dress from ordinary offenders. Unconvicted prisoners awaiting trial are permitted to wear their own clothing and may procure their own food from outside, and if they work are paid for it.

A medical officer visits the prison daily and examines all new admissions in addition to attending to sick offenders. The general health of the prisoners during 1949 was good. The Church of England chaplain visits the prison three times a week and conducts a service on Sundays and festivals. In addition he supervises a library and school which are maintained for the benefit of the prisoners. Well-conducted prisoners are allowed to study in the evenings in congregation rooms. During the year fairly liberal assistance with money, clothing and tools was given to discharged prisoners owing to the increased cost of living and unemployment.

The total number of persons imprisoned during 1949 was 200, a decrease on the 1948 figure which was 290. The daily average was 159 males and 7 females compared with 150 males and 12 females during 1948.

GOVERNMENT INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS

There are separate Government Industrial Schools for boys and girls under one Superintendent. Twenty-three boys and three girls were admitted to the schools during 1949 for periods varying from 3 to 5 years compared with 14 boys and one girl during 1948. The daily average was 66 boys and 9 girls compared with 71 and 11 respectively in 1948.

During the year money was voted to provide the books and equipment necessary to bring the schools up to date.

Careful attention is being paid to vocational training with increasing emphasis on handicraft. At the Local Arts and Crafts Exhibition 13 boys and nine girls won certificates of merit. The girls at Summervale also gained five prizes at the Annual Industrial Exhibition. The activities in the schools comprise :

Stock Farm. A small stock farm is maintained at the boys' school so that an interest may be taken in animal husbandry. Poultry rearing is encouraged at Summervale (girls).

Vegetable Garden. Owing to inadequate water supply the rotation of cropping has been handicapped and restricted to the planting of ground-nuts, bananas and sweet potatoes.

Carpenters' Shop. The furniture and fittings of the institution continued to be made by the boys under the supervision of an instructor.

Masonry. Maintenance of the interior of the buildings and minor repairs were undertaken by the boys in this department.

Tailors' Shop. All the clothing worn by the boys and the male staff is made by the boys under the supervision of an instructor. The girls are supervised in the making of their own clothes by a member of the staff of the girls' school.

Shoemakers' Shop. A part-time instructor is engaged twice weekly.

Handicraft. One of the teaching staff gives instruction in the making

of hammocks, handbags, baskets, mats, brushes, brooms and slippers. The girls attend a domestic science class weekly and are supervised in handicraft by a part-time instructress.

Recreation. Cricket and football are the principal outdoor games. A team from the school participated in the fixtures of the Barbados Cricket League during the year.

The usual variety of indoor games including cards, table tennis and draughts was engaged in. It is unfortunate that the instruction in chess by the Barbados Chess Club was limited to six months only, as a sufficient and working knowledge which would maintain interest in the game could not be imparted to the boys in so short a period.

Boys who behaved well throughout the year were allowed to visit their parents and guardians.

The system of after-care is under review.

Chapter 10 : Public Utilities and Public Works

WATERWORKS

The Waterworks Department is responsible for the construction, maintenance and extension of the waterworks for the supply of the whole island with water for domestic and industrial purposes. There are five pumping stations and approximately 660 miles of main pipes laid. Seven hundred and twenty-eight standpipes distributed throughout the Island give the inhabitants a free supply of water. In addition, approximately 7,250 premises are supplied with laid-on water by the department. Water is also supplied to the shipping in Carlisle Bay when required.

The scheme prepared by the Hydraulic and Electrical Adviser to the Comptroller for Development and Welfare for the modernising of the water supply system is being implemented and further investigated with the object of providing an efficient system over the next 20 years.

ELECTRICITY

Electricity is supplied by a private company, the Barbados Electric Supply Corporation Limited, to private and public premises, and is used for street lighting in Bridgetown and part of Christ Church. Power is supplied to many of the sugar factories. The company operates under the Electric Light and Power (Provisional Orders Confirmation) Act, 1907. The whole island is not yet supplied, but under the terms of the Act the company has the right to extend its service to any area within 50 years from 1st August, 1936.

Electricity is generated at 3,300 volts and is supplied to the high-tension distribution network at 3,300 volts and 11,000 volts. Domestic and other low-tension supply is at 110 volts, 50 cycles A.C., general power supply is at 208 volts two and three phase. The number of consumers at 31st December, 1949, was 7,349 compared with 6,731 in 1948.

A Government Electrical Inspector has been appointed under the

Electricity Act, 1936. His duties are to inspect annually all Government installations and apparatus, to inspect new installations on public or private premises to see that they comply with the Electric Light and Power Act and that they meet the proper safety requirements, and to inspect the wiring from the Electric Company's mains to the consumers' meters. In addition, the Government Electrical Inspector performs duties and is vested with powers under the Wireless Telegraphy Act, 1940.

GAS

A small Gas Company operates under the terms of the Gas Act, 1911, and supplies gas to private consumers in the Bridgetown and Hastings areas. In addition, some of the older parts of Bridgetown still use gas for street lighting.

The company uses "natural gas" relayed by way of the Belle Pumping Station from Turner's Hall to its works.

BROADCASTING

A wire broadcasting system, confined to Bridgetown and suburbs, is provided by a local company—Radio Distribution (Barbados) Limited—with 3,198 subscribers. The company operates under an agreement with the Government entered into in accordance with the provisions of the Wireless Telegraphy Act, 1940, and relays programme items received by wireless from abroad and also broadcasts news of local and West Indian interest.

The only direct reception in the Island is from the British Broadcasting Corporation's Empire Service and foreign stations operating on short-wavelengths. There is no local wireless broadcasting service, but Government possesses a small transmitter which is used occasionally to transmit, locally and to neighbouring islands, programmes approved by the Governor-in-Executive Committee.

GOVERNMENT ARCHITECT AND PLANNING OFFICER

The Department was formed in April, 1946, and was at first paid for partly under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act, but was taken over in its entirety by the Barbados Government in April, 1947. Its first task is housing and town and country planning; the two have been linked in the Barbados Housing and Town and Country Planning Bill which is not yet law. While waiting for this legislation, the Department has designed and erected various Government buildings.

Schools. The Department has been concerned to produce a standard type design to meet the large school building requirements of the Department of Education.

St. Leonard's Girls' Modern Secondary School. Work started late in 1948 upon the construction of a new girls' modern secondary school in Bridgetown, which will accommodate 755 pupils. Besides the classrooms, there is to be an assembly hall, library, laboratory and craftrooms. The estimated cost is \$216,000.

The Coleridge and Parry School. Work has started upon the construction of a new boys' secondary school to serve the northern parishes and to replace two existing secondary schools whose buildings have ceased to be serviceable—the Parry School and the Coleridge School. The new school will accommodate 420 boys. Accommodation will include hall, library, art room and laboratories. The school is to have a course with an agricultural basis and its estimated cost is \$144,960.

PUBLIC WORKS

During 1949, normal maintenance work on Government buildings, including the General Hospital, was carried out by the Public Works Department.

Due to damage by flood waters in August, portions of the boundary walls at Glendairy and the Leper Hospital were rebuilt, and the ground floors of Combermere School were taken up and relaid. The cost of these works was approximately \$131,500. Repairs to wharf walls, using interlocking steel piles, were continued at a cost of \$12,965.

The following capital works begun in 1948 were completed :

Mental Hospital—Female Dormitory	cost \$55,000
Occupational Therapy Sheds	„ 5,600
Two Isolation Wards	„ 4,772
Eagle Hall—Police Post	„ 27,300
Seawall—Alterations and extensions	„ 10,091
St. Ann's Court—Conversion of barracks into flats	„ 61,200

During the year funds were provided for the following works :

Renovation of House of Assembly and Council Chamber	completed cost \$6,720
Extension of Department of Science and Agriculture	„ „ 43,680
Extension of Bacteriological Laboratory	„ „ 10,085
Additional accommodation for warders at Glendairy Prison	„ „ 3,726
Provision of shelter shed at Market	„ „ 1,160
Provision of additional lavatories, Department of Highways & Transport	„ „ 800
Conversion of building into Police Post at Oistins	„ „ 8,112
Fish Market at Oistins	„ „ 4,154

Shelter sheds at Reids Bay, Consetts, and Skeetes Bay, and a tractor house at Bathsheba were erected for the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, at a cost of \$3,560.

Work was commenced on alterations and extensions to the Law Courts (\$48,000), and on alterations to Trafalgar Square (\$41,000). The bus terminus was surfaced at a cost of \$3,000.

The Chalky Mount Primary School with six classrooms, headmaster's study, assembly hall and lavatories to accommodate 80 infants and 160 juniors, was started in December, 1948. The site is difficult in that it

is steeply sloped and of clay foundation which is liable to movement. Extensive use of a bulldozer proved valuable in the preparation of the site.

Chapter II : Communications

SHIPPING

The steamship lines at present calling at Barbados are :

From the United Kingdom and European Ports—The Harrison Line, the Elder & Fyffes Line, the Blue Star Line, the Royal Netherlands Steamship Company and the Compagnie Générale Transatlantique, though the three latter have not established a regular service to the island.

From Canada—The Canadian National Steamships and the Alcoa Steamship Company, Incorporated.

From the United States of America—The Alcoa Steamship Company, Incorporated and Furness Withy & Company Limited.

From Newfoundland—The Newfoundland Railways operate a fleet of small motor vessels of about 325 tons.

From South America—The Booth Line and the Lamport and Holt Line, both of which visit at irregular intervals, and the Flotta Mercante del Estada operating a freight service with the Argentine.

From India and the Far East—The Nourse Line visits periodically.

Inter-Colonial Service—The Compagnie Générale Transatlantique operated an inter-colonial service between the islands of the French Antilles and the Guianas, calling at Barbados, the Windward Islands and Trinidad up to July, 1949.

During 1949, 999 merchant vessels with a total net tonnage of 1,234,120 tons arrived at the port, compared with 971 vessels of 1,076,557 tons in 1948. In addition to the above, four British men-of-war, nine American men-of-war, one Dutch man-of-war, 13 yachts, 8 Royal Fleet Auxiliaries, 3 training ships, 2 cable ships and one naval tug visited Barbados. Six cruise ships carrying 1,626 tourists also visited the port during the year. Six hundred and twenty-seven vessels with a total gross tonnage of 73,680 tons entered the careenage compared with 691 vessels of 63,716 tons in 1948. Of these 159 were steam or motor vessels, the remainder being sailing vessels.

The number of seamen engaged at the port during the year was 1,067 and 979 were discharged. The number of seamen engaged at the port to serve in ships going to foreign ports was 692 and of this number 208 were still serving afloat at the end of the year.

AIR

The headquarters of the Directorate General of Civil Aviation for the West Indies is at Barbados.

Barbados has one airfield at Seawell, about 12 miles from Bridgetown. The number of aircraft arriving during the year was 1,242 compared with 1,141 in 1948. The large majority of these were planes on the scheduled flights of the British West Indian Airways.

Passengers arriving by air numbered 12,074 and 12,063 departed out of totals of 16,870 and 15,847 passengers respectively entering and leaving the island.

ROADS

The Department of Highways and Transport is responsible for the maintenance of the main highways and controls public transport and road traffic.

The roads over which the Director has authority are set out in a schedule to the Highways and Transport Act, 1945, and new roads may be added by the Governor-in-Executive Committee. The upkeep of the remaining roads is still the responsibility of the Vestry of the parish in which it lies. The Island is approximately 166 square miles of land, all of which is either occupied or closely cultivated, and this comparatively small area is served by 576 miles of road open to traffic, of which 422 are oil-emulsion surfaced. These roads are, to a large extent, in good order and are fully capable of serving the somewhat exacting needs of the varied forms of transport common throughout Barbados.

In the main the Department of Highways and Transport controls and maintains the arterial highways radiating from Bridgetown and certain connecting roads, including all the roads in the parishes of St. Michael, St. Andrew and St. Lucy totalling 315 miles, of which 300 are oil-emulsion surfaced.

The department is also responsible for the maintenance of the runway of Seawell Airport.

As a result of the improved conditions of the roads and the absence of difficult gradients, except perhaps in the Scotland area, practically the whole Island is accessible to motor and other traffic. The number of private cars in use at the end of the year was 2,712 and in addition there were 1,742 commercial motor vehicles, 149 motor cycles, 18,126 pedal bicycles and a large number of animal-drawn carts.

The city of Bridgetown and the suburbs are served by omnibuses running at frequent intervals and at moderate fares not exceeding 3 cents per section or part thereof. Omnibuses have their termini in Bridgetown and depart thence for the seaside districts, as well as to the more popular residential inland parts of the Island. The country districts are provided with a daily service.

One hundred and thirty-five omnibuses operate in the island on routes approved by the Director of Highways and Transport; they are owned by 14 private owners who receive a concession to run a service. At the moment most of the omnibuses are of an open-side type.

POSTS

The General Post Office is situated in the Public Buildings in Bridgetown. In addition there are 10 parish offices and two sub-offices, all of which transact full postal business. Letters posted at any post office within the scheduled hours are delivered to the addressees the same day.

The total revenue and expenditure of the Post Office over the past five years is given in the table overleaf. The gross revenue column includes

customs duties, package tax and stamp duties. In the net revenue column these have been subtracted so that the true postal revenue can be ascertained.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Gross Revenue</i>	<i>Net Revenue</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>
	\$	\$	\$
1945 . . .	351,254	277,142	194,021
1946 . . .	412,344	289,387	209,530
1947 . . .	497,851	331,373	251,069
1948 . . .	462,590	314,592	270,154
1949 . . .	579,608	391,057	298,166

Notwithstanding an increase in expenditure in 1949 of \$28,012, mainly due to increases in personal emoluments, the surplus net revenue over expenditure is \$92,891. This increase is due mainly to the sale of postage stamps which was \$32,121 more than in 1948. The Barbados stamps in commemoration of the 75th Anniversary of the Universal Postal Union were issued on 10th October and the revenue from those sold to philatelists also contributed to this satisfactory position.

The following table shows the number of articles despatched and received by air and ocean mails during the two years 1948 and 1949.

	<i>Despatched</i>		<i>Received</i>	
	1948	1949	1948	1949
Air Mail . . .	753,194	785,569	754,001	739,427
Registered . . .	21,400	27,319	50,083	56,881
TOTAL . . .	774,594	812,888	804,084	796,308
Ocean Mail . . .	218,334	226,713	444,096	476,385
Registered . . .	7,309	6,810	8,829	10,412
TOTAL . . .	225,643	233,523	452,925	486,797
GRAND TOTAL	1,000,237	1,046,411	1,257,009	1,283,105

There is an appreciable increase in the number of air mail articles despatched, while the number of those received show a decrease of 7,776 when compared with 1948.

The number of inland postal articles dealt with during the year was 1,878,678 made up as follows :

Letters	770,325
Postcards	29,006
Official letters	198,861
Registered letters	26,410
	1,024,602
Book packets (including official 34,775)	66,295
Other articles	787,781
GRAND TOTAL	1,878,678

Although the figures relating to parcels have not been included in previous reports, the unusual growth of this branch of the postal service deserves special mention.'

The following table shows the traffic in parcels during the four years 1937, 1938, 1948 and 1949 :

Calendar year	1937	1938	1948	1949
Parcels—In . . .	8,944	8,762	39,692	57,352
Parcels—Out . . .	42,601	41,735	48,016	43,223
TOTALS . . .	<u>51,545</u>	<u>50,497</u>	<u>87,708</u>	<u>100,575</u>

During the year 1949 the Post Office handled 4,308,769 articles as compared with 4,359,171 in 1948. Parcel mail is included in both totals.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

The Island is an important centre for both cable and radio communication, being the junction point of several cables as well as the site of a large modern wireless installation of great range, established by Cable and Wireless Limited.

External telecommunications services are operated by the Cable and Wireless (West Indies), Limited, controlled by Cable and Wireless, Limited. This company owns and operates cable connections with most of the other important West Indian islands and British Guiana, and through Turks Island and Bermuda to Halifax, where connection is made with the company's North Atlantic cable system to Great Britain and other parts of the world.

The company has also established in the Island large long-range wireless installations which, with its previously established wireless coast station, are operated in conjunction with the cable system and provide services with many parts of the world and with a number of other West Indian islands which are not connected by cable. The coast station also provides a service with ships at sea.

The wireless telephone service, which was inaugurated in 1945 in collaboration with the Barbados Telephone Company, has since been extended and now provides services to the Commonwealth and foreign territories.

The Western Telegraph Company, Limited, and the Western Union Telegraph Company, also controlled by Cable and Wireless, Limited, have direct cable communication with Brazil and South America and Miami, respectively.

There is no internal telegraph system. Internal communications are provided by a telephone service serving all parts of the island and operated by a private company, the Barbados Telephone Company, Limited, which has a modern automatic central exchange in Bridgetown and three branch exchanges, one of which is automatic. There are 3,072 exchange lines, 3,900 stations and eight private branch exchanges with a total wire mileage of 16,000.

Chapter 12 : Barbados Regiment

At the conclusion of the South African war the Imperial Government made it known that they intended to withdraw the regular troops stationed in the Island. The local Government, realising the necessity of providing itself with its own armed forces, passed an Act to establish the Barbados Volunteer Force. This came into being on 2nd July, 1902. The Governor, Sir Frederick Hodgson, K.C.M.G., was its first Commanding Officer.

The establishment of the Force consisted of an infantry company of 50 members, a detachment of artillery and another of cyclists. The Inspector of Police was made *ex officio* Adjutant of the Force.

The first public parade in which the Barbados Volunteer Force took part was at His Majesty the King's Birthday Parade in 1904, when they paraded with a battalion of the Worcestershire Regiment.

In 1907 a detachment of the Barbados Volunteer Force was sent to St. Lucia to assist in quelling riots ; and in 1911 a contingent was sent to represent Barbados at His Majesty King George V's Coronation.

During the 1914-18 War the Force carried out certain defence duties, many of its members obtaining leave to proceed overseas to join active service units.

During the intervening years of peace, regular serving officers were appointed to carry out the duties of Staff Officer of the Local Forces and Adjutant of the Barbados Volunteer Force.

In 1939 the Force was embodied, and additional United Kingdom officers were later attached to assist in training.

In October, 1942, the War Office decided to absorb the Force into the Caribbean Regiment, the local Battalion being known as the Barbados Battalion. This unit subsequently became the Islands Battalion and was disbanded in 1947.

Before demobilisation, His Excellency the Governor, Sir Hilary Blood, K.C.M.G., appointed a committee to make recommendations on the reconstitution of the Barbados Volunteer Force. The recommendations were approved and the War Office handed over arms, ammunition, clothing, equipment, etc. to form a battalion.

Soon after recruiting started application was made to the local Government to have the name of the Force changed to the Barbados Regiment. The War Office raised no objection to this and the necessary bill was passed through the Legislature on 25th November, 1948.

In response to an application made in August, 1948, the Barbados Regiment is now affiliated to the Royal Leicestershire Regiment, which has associations with the Island.

In May, 1949, a Staff Officer and a R.S.M. (I) Instructor were seconded from the Regular Army to supervise the organisation and training of the Regiment ; and to assist in the military training of the Police Force.

During the year, the annual camp was held in St. Andrews, and an inspection of the Local Forces was carried out by the Commander, Caribbean Area. The Regiment also provided a Guard of Honour for the arrival of His Excellency the Governor and Mrs. Savage.

PART III

Chapter 1 : Geography and Climate

BARBADOS, the most easterly of the West Indian islands, is situated in latitude $13^{\circ} 4'$ North and longitude $59^{\circ} 37'$ West. In latitude it compares with Madras or the Gambia, but the climate differs from both. The Island is triangular in shape and is 21 miles long by 14 miles across the widest part. It contains approximately 166 square miles, with a population at the end of 1949 of 207,262. It is approximately the size of the Isle of Wight.

Natural and climatic conditions justify the claim of Barbados to be the healthiest of all West Indian islands. The Island is much resorted to by residents in neighbouring Colonies, and a considerable number of visitors from northern climates find it an agreeable change. There is little variation in temperature, the range being generally from 69° to 90° F. and in the cool months—December to May—as low occasionally as 64° . The Island during this time gets the full benefit of the cool north-east trade winds.

“The geological structure of Barbados is extremely simple. It consists of a basement of much-folded sandstones and shales (the Scotland series) covered unconformably by the soft, chalklike rocks of the Oceanic series. Except in the Scotland district, both of these geological series are covered unconformably with a layer of coral limestone which varies in thickness from a thin veneer to 240–260 feet.” *

The Island lies almost out of the track of hurricanes, although it is a matter of history that these have swept over it at far intervals, notably in 1780, 1831 and 1898, doing considerable damage. Earth tremors have been occasionally felt, but severe earthquake shocks have not occurred.

In May 1812 Mount Soufrière on the island of St. Vincent, which is 95 miles to the west of Barbados, erupted, and thousands of tons of dust were deposited on the Colony. The dust is said to have improved the soil of the fields.

In appearance Barbados is peculiarly English. It lacks entirely the restless luxuriance of other tropical islands. Its general aspect is green and undulating, and because the colour of the sugar cane is the same as that of grass, for many months of the year the Barbados landscape recalls the downs of Sussex or the weald of Kent. The plantation houses, set in copses of dark-foliaged trees, increase the similarity.

The Island has many attractions for tourists—yachting, golf, cricket, tennis and some of the finest sea-bathing in the world. The hotels are good, and most of the clubs are open to visitors. The Island produces

* Starkey, *Economic Geography of Barbados*.

fine thoroughbred horses which compete successfully in the race meetings of other islands. The Barbados Turf Club holds three meetings a year. Polo is played, and there are pleasant rides over the countryside, particularly along the "intervals," as the grassy bridle paths through the fields are locally called.

Chapter 2 : History

The original inhabitants of Barbados were the Arawak Indians who migrated probably from the mainland of South America. When they arrived is not known, but relics of their occupation down to the latter years of the sixteenth century have been discovered in various parts of the Island. By the time the English settlers came they had disappeared, partly through Carib raids from the neighbouring islands, and partly through the Spaniards, who deported them to work in the mines of Hispaniola.

The first Europeans to sight Barbados were Portuguese, at some time in the sixteenth century. They called it Los Barbados after the bearded fig trees they found there. In 1536 Pedro a Campos visited the Island and left pigs to breed so that wayfarers should not lack food. He found no Indians. The Island was deserted. The Portuguese never claimed possession of the Island and it remained without nationality until Captain Cataline of the *Olive Blossom*, driven out of his course on a voyage to Guiana, landed on the leeward coast near the modern Holetown and erected a cross and inscribed on a tree nearby "JAMES K OF E AND OF THIS ISLAND." This happened in 1625; but it was not until 1627 that the first settlement was made. In the previous year the King, James I, granted the Island to the Earl of Marlborough, whose protégé, Sir William Courteen, fitted out an expedition commanded by one John Powell. Powell, however, carried letters of marque and, having captured a Spanish prize, returned with it to Cowes in July 1626 without having reached the Island. A second expedition was fitted out, and on 20th February, 1627, the ship *William and John*, commanded by Henry Powell, landed 80 settlers at the spot where Captain Cataline had set up his cross. They called it the Hole, hence the modern name of Holetown.

Meanwhile, in 1623, another nobleman, the Earl of Carlisle, had shown his interest in the West Indies. Under his patronage Thomas Warner had succeeded in establishing in St. Christopher the first settlement in the British West Indian Colonies. In 1627, when Charles I issued Letters Patent to Lord Carlisle granting him proprietary rights over all the "Caribee Islands" Barbados was apparently included. Lord Carlisle bought off Lord Marlborough's interest by settling on him and his heirs an annuity of £300. Courteen fitted out the original expedition of 1625, waited until Lord Carlisle was absent from England and induced yet another nobleman, the Earl of Pembroke, to claim Barbados. Once again Letters Patent were issued, this time granting Barbados and three

other islands to Lord Pembroke. When Lord Carlisle returned to England and discovered what had happened, he succeeded in getting himself reinstated. He also took practical steps to secure his possession of the Island by sending out sixty-four new settlers who founded St. Michael's town, on the site of Bridgetown, the present capital. This settlement immediately quarrelled with the older colony and after a fight, the windward men, as the newcomers were called, overcame the leeward men.

In 1636 Lord Carlisle died, leaving his rights in Barbados and the Caribbee Islands in trust for the payment of his debts with remainder to his son, who, in 1647, leased his rights to Lord Willoughby of Parham for twenty-one years. In 1650 Lord Willoughby assumed the Government of Barbados in the name of the King and caused an Act to be passed recognising the rights of the King, Lord Carlisle and himself; but in 1652 the Island capitulated to a force despatched by the Commonwealth on terms providing for government by a Governor appointed by the Commonwealth. This was the extinction of proprietary rule.

At the Restoration the various claims based or secured on the Carlisle Patent revived, but a return to the proprietary system was strongly opposed by the planters whose titles to land were in many cases defective. After lengthy negotiations a settlement was arrived at, based on the surrender of the Carlisle Patent to the Crown and the compensation of the various claims out of a fixed revenue provided by the Colony in return for the confirmation of local land titles. The financial terms of the settlement were laid down by an Order in Council allocating the future revenue of the Caribbee Islands, that is to say, Barbados and the Leeward Islands, to the satisfaction of the claims, after which it was to revert to the Crown. The revenue itself was provided by a $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent duty on exports which was imposed by Acts passed by the Barbados Legislature in 1663, and by that of the Leeward Islands in 1664. This duty continued in force and was a constant source of grievance to the Colonies until 1838 when it was abolished by an Act of the Imperial Parliament.

Barbados has never changed hands since the date of settlement, but it has had some narrow escapes. In 1665 the Dutch Admiral, de Ruyter, attempted to capture it with a fleet of twenty-five ships of the line, two fire ships and 2,500 troops. When the news of his approach reached Barbados the British ships were brought in close under the batteries. The Dutch fleet attempted to follow them, but the fire from the English vessels was so destructive that the flagship was disabled and the expedition was forced to withdraw.

During the eighteenth century when the West Indies were involved in the French and American wars, Barbados was liable to attack and was ringed with forts, the crumbling stones and rusting guns of which still remain. In 1782 the Island was saved from occupation only by Rodney's victory in the "Battle of the Saints" on 12th April. Again, in 1805, the forts were manned when it was learned that the French and Spanish fleets had been sighted off St. Lucia, but the arrival of Nelson on board the *Victory* accompanied by the whole English fleet, restored tranquillity. Nelson's visit to the Island and the gratitude of the inhabitants for their

delivery were commemorated by the erection in 1811 of a bronze statue in Trafalgar Square, overlooking the Bridgetown carenage.*

The first settlers had raised tobacco and cotton. In 1644 certain Dutch sugar planters and traders, expelled from Guiana by the Portuguese, introduced their craft to Barbados. The first mills were worked by cattle, but in 1655 the windmill was introduced. In 1841 the first steam engines were at work and thereafter the windmills declined. The last of them ceased work in 1946.

During the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries Barbados was an island of plenty and prosperity. Many English families settled there, as place-names and memorials bear witness, for instance, Codrington College, Bulkeley and Lascelles Plantations, Drax Hall, Edgumbe and Frere Pilgrim estates. The Council Chamber possesses portraits of the first, second and third Earls of Harewood. The planters were rich and displayed their wealth as was customary at the time, partly by erecting ostentatious monuments by the finest British sculptors of the day. The interior of a Barbados parish church has, therefore, a particularly English look. Many of the memorials are the work of sculptors of Liverpool and Bristol, from which so many of the settlers had come, but there are also examples of the work of Flaxman and Bacon; and the little church of St. George can boast of a memorial of Nollekens on its southern wall, one by Westmacott on its northern wall, and an altar-piece by Benjamin West. Other churches have their interest. It was in a vault in the churchyard of Christ Church that in 1820 there occurred the well-known and mysterious displacement of coffins. The graveyard of St. John's Church contains a memorial to Ferdinando Paleologus "descended from the Imperial line of the last Christian Emperors of Greece".

Ever since the Island was first colonised, the connection between Barbados and Northern America has been very close. Many families in the Carolinas, and some even as far north as New England, reached America *via* Barbados.

The bond between Barbados and Britain has been maintained by a number of well-known names, down to our day. Warren Hastings' father, Penniston, was at one time Rector of Christ Church, though Warren himself was born in England. Leigh Hunt was of Barbadian parentage, his grandfather having been Rector of St. Michael, and his father a clergyman who flitted between Bridgetown and Philadelphia before settling down as a fashionable preacher in London. The famous Chenery, Professor of Arabic at Oxford, reviser of the Old Testament, and Editor of the *The Times* from 1877 to 1884, was born in Barbados in 1826. In our own day, Sir Frank Newsam, Permanent Under Secretary of State for Home Affairs, was a Barbadian; and the Island takes pride in the fact that John Goddard was chosen to captain both the West Indies cricket team which met the M.C.C. in January, 1948 (for two of the four test matches), and the West Indies team which toured India, Pakistan and Ceylon a year later.

* In 1914 Barbados was again exposed to the enemy. The German cruiser *Karlsruhe* was ordered to attack the Island, but blew up *en route*.

During the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries a prosperous Sephardic Jewish community grew up in Barbados. They gradually declined through emigration and assimilation, until in the early years of the century the community disappeared. Their beautifully furnished synagogue was alienated—it is now the headquarters of the Barbados Turf Club and a Political Association—and the graveyard desecrated, many of its memorials being broken. Of recent years a new, Ashkenazi, community of some sixteen families from Europe has grown up.

In 1751, George Washington, then a lad of nineteen, visited Barbados as the companion of his dying brother, Lawrence, who came to Barbados in the hope of recovering his health. Washington, as his diary records, was much taken with the Island. He enjoyed his rides in the cool of the day, and he met the best society in the Island, becoming a member of the Beefsteak and Tripe Club. He is known to have visited Christ Church and to have dined at Graeme Hall nearby. On leaving the Island he recorded in his diary: "Hospitality and genteel behaviour is shown to every Gentleman stranger by the inhabitants."

The devastating hurricane of 1831 put an end to these halcyon days, and the West Indies as a whole were already entering a trough of depression.

Emancipation of the slaves in 1834 caused a great change in the economy of the Island, despite the compensation of £1 $\frac{3}{4}$ million which the planters received from the British Treasury. It did not for some time greatly amend the status of the slaves. The white minority, the old "plantocracy" still dominated the Island politically, socially and commercially. In 1876 matters came to a head in the so-called Confederation Riots.

A new Governor, John Pope Hennessy, was appointed with instructions to secure from the Legislature consent to certain measures of administrative unification in the Windward group, of which Barbados was the headquarters. One purpose of these proposals, prematurely labelled as "Confederation", was to by-pass the consistent obstructiveness of a Legislature elected by 1,300 voters out of a population of over 160,000; and Barbadian particularism, fearful for the independence of its Legislature, and even more of its Treasury, was up in arms at once. A "Defence Association" was formed among the upper and middle classes to mobilise opposition to the plans of the Colonial Office, and this led to a counter-agitation among the labourers, who supposed that Confederation would benefit them. Hennessy, whose zeal and energy were not supported by good political judgment, had given some encouragement to this belief; and in April, 1876, the astonishing spectacle was seen of widespread rioting by negroes who understood that in robbing provision fields, sacking plantation houses, and destroying livestock, they were carrying out the wishes of the representative of the Queen. Hennessy showed promptness, firmness and temperance in suppressing the disturbances, and the casualties were not large—eight killed and thirty-odd injured; figures very similar to those in the 1937 disturbances, which preceded the appointment of the Moyne Commission. In neither case was any white person killed.

After Hennessy had been diplomatically transferred to another

Government, the extreme political tension in the Island was eased. The Barbadian political system appeared to have emerged from the crisis intact; but, after an attempt to secure for the Government official representation in the House of Assembly had failed, a compromise was reached in the Executive Committee Act of 1881. By this scheme, the Governor was required to call in his Executive Council, four members of the Assembly and one of the Legislative Council, to form an Executive Committee for the discussion and transaction of financial business, and the consideration of legislative measures at large.

In the absence of further acute conflict between the two branches of the Government the plan worked fairly well, until, in quite recent times, an enlarged franchise and a more widely diffused political consciousness exposed its weaknesses. During the late war the failure of the Executive Committee to keep the confidence of the House of Assembly produced a virtual legislative deadlock. The recent experiment, inaugurated in 1946, is an attempt to solve this, by requiring the Governor to ask the person best able to command a majority in the House of Assembly to suggest what members of the House shall sit in the Executive Committee—thus tentatively establishing without any legal alteration in the constitution, something like responsible party government.*

The 'eighties were a period of depression in world trade. From 1885 onwards, mainly owing to competition from bounty-fed sugar, Barbados was in the grip of an agricultural crisis. In 1894 the price of sugar fell to 9s. a hundredweight, and the next year the Bourbon cane, for so long the planters' standby, succumbed to the drought and moth borer. In such circumstances men were less inclined to favour constitutional than economic and social reform. Two measures of constitutional interest—a private member's Bill to retrench by amalgamating the offices of Governor and Colonial Secretary, and a similar Bill to exclude the Auditor-General from the House of Assembly and the Executive Committee—caused a little stir, but did not reach the Statute Book.

In 1896 a Royal Commission was appointed to investigate conditions in the West Indies. It had many important results, although some of these were long delayed. An Imperial Department of Agriculture was set up with headquarters in Barbados in 1898; John R. Bovell, of the local Department of Agriculture, was stimulated in his search for new varieties of cane. The disappearance of the Bourbon cane might have proved a permanent disaster, not only for Barbados, but for the whole West Indies, had it not been for Bovell's demonstrating that cane "arrows" or flowers, produce fertile seed, and that by cross-breeding many varieties of improved cane could be propagated from seed. The British West Indies Cane Breeding Station is now established in Barbados and is a memorial to Bovell's genius. In 1902 the sugar bounties were abolished and the Imperial Government made a gift of £250,000 to the West Indies, of which £80,000 fell to Barbados. This amount was at first administered by Commissioners as a loan fund for the benefit of

* For this, and other developments during and since the war, see Annual Report for 1947, Part I, Chapter 1, and Part III, Chapter 3.

sugar estates, and became in 1907, the nucleus of the capital of the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank. Meanwhile, the Court of Chancery was working at full pressure. Very few estates were abandoned or cut up and sold in lots, but on all the number of workers and the level of wages were necessarily reduced. With the population at 182,000, or 1,000 to the square mile, and a one-crop economy, this meant not only increased unemployment, but destitution. On top of this came the hurricane of 1898, not causing much loss of life, it is true, but adding greatly to the prevailing distress, especially among the labouring classes.

The price of sugar fell below a dollar a hundredweight. In 1902 there was an epidemic of smallpox. In 1905-6 the Imperial troops were withdrawn, which meant an annual loss of nearly £80,000.

Under this economic pressure the absentee proprietors who, at the time of the visit of the Royal Commission owned one-third of the acreage of the Island, dropped out of the race. They were succeeded by a set of new men who brought a new spirit and new methods of rehabilitation of the sugar industry. The need for economy and efficiency led to the creation of a number of factories controlling groups of estates. Moreover, after 1900 there was a great wave of emigration from among the lower-middle and the labouring classes to the United States and the Panama Canal works. Between 1906 and 1910 the remittances of these emigrants averaged well over £65,000. Several estates were cut up in lots and sold to the returned emigrants or their relatives. By 1913 there were 13,000 peasants who owned lots of five acres and under.

In 1913 the exodus to Panama ceased, but during the 1914-18 war and for some time after there was a boom in sugar and the prosperity it brought continued until about 1930. It was evident in the improved standard of living. An income tax was instituted in 1921.

By 1930 economic distress was again making itself felt, and in 1937 Barbados had its share of those disturbances which occurred throughout the West Indies. In that year a Royal Commission was sent to the West Indies, and from its labours, and the reforms produced, dates yet another period in the social and political development of the Colony.

Chapter 3 : Administration

Barbados possesses representative institutions, but not complete responsible Government. The Crown has only a veto on legislation, but the Secretary of State retains his appointment and control of Public Officers, except the Treasurer, who since 1710 has been nominated by the House of Assembly.

The Legislature consists of the Governor, the Legislative Council, consisting of 14 members appointed by His Majesty, and the House of Assembly, consisting of 24 members (two for each parish and two for the city of Bridgetown) elected for a period of two years. The House of Assembly was constituted in 1639 and is the oldest colonial

legislative body after the Bermuda House of Assembly. In 1944 the income qualification for voters was reduced from £50 to £20 per year, and the franchise was given to females, who also became eligible for election as members.

The executive part of the Government is vested in the Governor and an Executive Council and, in respect of certain matters, an Executive Committee. In actual practice, apart from advising the Governor with regard to the exercise of the Royal prerogative of mercy, nearly all the Executive Council's functions are discharged by the Executive Committee. The Executive Council consists of the Colonial Secretary and the Attorney-General *ex officio*, and of such other persons as His Majesty may appoint. The Executive Committee, which is created by local statute, consists of the Executive Council *ex officio* and of one member of the Legislative Council and four members of the House of Assembly appointed by the Governor at the commencement of each session of the Legislature. The Executive Committee introduces all money votes, prepares the estimates and initiates all Government measures; it is also responsible for the conduct of public works, and the control and management of Government property.

Until 1946 the Attorney-General, who is a full-time Government officer, was expected to stand for election for the House of Assembly and to take charge of Government business in the House of Assembly. In his speech when proroguing the Legislature at the end of 1946 the Governor stated that in future the Officer administering the Government would at the beginning of each session send for the member of the House who in his opinion was best able to command a majority in the House and would invite him to submit the names of four members of the House of Assembly for appointment to Executive Committee. At the same time the permission granted to the Attorney-General to seek election was withdrawn and the responsibility for the conduct of public business in the House of Assembly placed in the hands of those members of Executive Committee appointed from the House.

The Governor has the right to address the Legislature at any time, but this right is usually exercised only at the opening or close of the session. On other occasions the Governor communicates with either Chamber by a Message which is presented to the Chamber by a member of the Executive Committee. Communications from either Chamber to the Governor take the form of an Address which must be approved by a majority vote. The House of Assembly has no standing committee of finance and any application by the Governor-in-Executive Committee to approve expenditure, which is not authorised by an Act or in the annual Estimates of the Colony, must be approved by resolution of the Legislature before expenditure can be incurred.

The Island is administered as one unit except in respect of local government matters, which are in the hands of the Vestries and Parochial Boards of the eleven parishes. The Vestries are elected annually, and each Vestry appoints Commissioners of Highways, Commissioners of Health and Poor Law Guardians for the parish. The two last-named bodies rely for revenue upon grants from the Vestry, but the Commissioners of

Highways, who are responsible for the upkeep of all public highways in the parish which are not maintained by the Central Government, collect all vehicle and highway taxes, and, in addition, receive grants-in-aid from the Central Government. The Vestries derive their revenue mainly from taxes on ownership and occupancy of land and houses and trade tax; the rates for these are fixed annually so as to bring in sufficient revenue to meet the estimated expenditure for the year. The Vestries undertake the repair and maintenance of churches and church buildings and the Rector of each parish is chairman of the Vestry *ex officio*.

Chapter 4 : Weights and Measures

The standard of weights and superficial measure is the same as in the United Kingdom, but the local standard measure of capacity is 231 cubic inches to the gallon (known as the wine gallon).

Chapter 5 : Newspapers and Periodicals

<i>Advocate</i>	.	.	.	.	Daily except Monday
<i>Evening Advocate</i>	.	.	.	.	Monday
<i>Recorder</i>	.	.	.	.	Monday, Wednesday and Saturday
<i>Observer</i>	.	.	.	.	Saturday
<i>Torch</i>	.	.	.	.	Saturday
<i>Beacon</i>	.	.	.	.	Saturday
<i>Barbados Commerical Journal</i>	.	.	.	.	Monthly
<i>Annual Review</i>	.	.	.	.	

Chapter 6 : Reading List

- Barbados Department of Science and Agriculture. *Garden Book of Barbados*. Barbados Advocate Press.
- Barbados Museum and Historical Society. *Journal of the Barbados Museum and Historical Society*, Vols. I-XIV.
- BARROW, R. G. (comp.). *Notes on the History of St. George Parish Church and District, Barbados*. Barbados Weekly Illustrated, 1911.
- BOWEN, CHARLES P., and SINCKLER, E. G. (comps.). *Royal Visits to Barbados*: written in commemoration of the Jubilee of her most Excellent Majesty, Queen Victoria, 21st June 1887. Barbados Herald Press, 1887.

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Comptroller for Development and Welfare in the West Indies. *Agricultural Development in Barbados ; Despatches from the Comptroller for Development and Welfare in the West Indies to His Excellency the Governor of Barbados*. Barbados Advocate, 1942.

DAVIS, N. DARNELL. *The Cavaliers and Roundheads of Barbados 1650-52, with some account of the early history of Barbados*. Georgetown, British Guiana "Argosy Press," 1883. (Tells of the early life of this old English Colony, and describes a little-known episode of the Great Civil War.)

Desultory Sketches and Tales of Barbados. London, Washbourne, 1840.

EDGHILL, Rev. J. Y. *About Barbados*. London, Tallis, 1890.

FOSTER, NICHOLAS. *A Briefe relation of the late horrid rebellion acted in the island of Barbados in the West Indies, wherein is contained their inhuman acts and actions in fining and banishing the Well-affected to the Parliament of England (both men and women) without the least cause given them so to doe. Dispossessing all such as any way opposed these their mischievous actions. Acted by the Waldrons and their abettors, Anno 1650*. London, Lowndes, 1650.

FRERE, GEORGE. *A short history of Barbados, from its first discovery and settlement, to the end of the year 1767*. London, Dodsley, 1768.

Full account of the movements of H.R.H. Prince Alfred, during his visit to Barbados : comprising every circumstance connected with H.R.H.'s arrival, reception and departure, together with copies of the addresses received by H.R.H. from civil and ecclesiastical departments, and his replies thereto. Barbados, Drinan, 1861.

HALL, RICHARD. *A general account of the first settlement and the trade and constitution of the island of Barbados ; written in the year 1755*. With a foreword by E. M. Shilstone. Barbados, 1924.

HARLOW, VINCENT T. *A History of Barbados 1625-1685*. Oxford, Clarendon Press, 1926.

HARRISON, J. B., and JUKES-BROWNE, A. J. *Geology of Barbados*. Barbados, Bennett Bros. for the Barbadian Legislature, 1890.

HEWITT, J. M. (ed.) *Silver Jubilee Magazine*. Barbados Herald Press, 1935.

HIGHAM, C. S. S. *Development of the Leeward Islands under the Restoration, 1660-1668 ; a study of the Foundation of the Old Colonial System*. Cambridge University Press, 1921. (Gives detailed

information about the early settlement of Barbados, once included in the Leewards.)

HUGHES, REV. GRIFFITH. *Natural History of Barbados*. London, Hughes, 1750.

LIGON, RICHARD. *A true and exact History of the Island of Barbados* : illustrated with a mapp of the island, as also the principall trees and plants there, drawn out by their severall and respective scales. Together with the Ingenio that makes the sugar, with the plots of the severall houses, rooms and other places, that are used in the process of sugar-making. London, Humphrey Moseley, 1657.

LITTLETON, EDWARD. *Groans of the Plantations ; or a true account of their grievous and extreme sufferings by the heavy impositions upon sugar, and other hardships ; relating more particularly to the Island of Barbados*. London, Clarke, 1689.

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Some Memoirs of the First Settlement of the Island of Barbados, and other of the Caribee Islands, with the succession of the Governours and Commanders-in-Chief of Barbados to the year 1741. Extracted from ancient records, papers and accounts taken from Mr. Wm. Arnold, Mr. Samuel Bulkly, and Mr. John Summers, some of the first settlers, the last of whom was alive in 1688, aged 82. Barbados, Wm. Beeby, 1741.

Papers relating to the Late Disturbances in Barbados. C. 1539, 1876.

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REECE, J. E., and CLARK-HUNT, C. G. (eds.). *Barbados Diocesan History, in commemoration of the first centenary of the Diocese, 1825-1925*. London, W. I. Committee, 1925.

RODDAM, GEORGE. *Reports on the Ground Water Resources of Barbados*. Barbados, 1948.

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- SHARP, F. G. *Barbados Year Book*, with a Who's Who by C. A. L. Gale. Barbados Advocate, 1937.
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- STARKEY, OTIS P. *Economic Geography of Barbados*, a study of the relationships between environmental variations and economic development. New York, Columbia University Press, 1939.
- WALLER, J. A. "A Voyage in the West Indies, observations made during a residence in Barbados and the Leeward Islands" in *New Voyages and Travels* (London, 1819-23), 1820.
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IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS

Obtainable from H.M. Stationery Office at the addresses shown on cover page three or through any bookseller. Prices in brackets include postage

- Report of the West Indian Conference held in Barbados, 21st-30th March, 1944*. Colonial No. 187, 1944. Price 6d. (7d.).
- Closer Association of the British West Indian Colonies*. Cmd. 7120, 1947. Price 9d. (10d.).
- Conference on the Closer Association of the British West Indian Colonies, Montego Bay, Jamaica, 11th September to 19th September, 1947*. Part I: Report. Cmd. 7291, 1948. Price 9d. (11d.). Part II: Proceedings. Colonial No. 218, 1948. Price 3s. (3s. 3d.).
- Report of the Commission on the Unification of the Public Services in the British Caribbean Area, 1948-49*. Colonial No. 254, 1950. Price 2s. (2s. 2d.).
- Report of the British Caribbean Standing Closer Association Committee, 1948-49*. Colonial No. 255, 1950. Price 3s. (3s. 3d.).
- West India Royal Commission Report*. Cmd. 6607, 1945. Price 7s. 6d. (8s.).
- Development and Welfare in the West Indies*,
 1940-42. Colonial No. 184, 1943. Price 1s. 6d. (1s. 8d.).
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- Agriculture in the West Indies.* Colonial No. 182, 1942. *Out of print.*
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- Report of the West Indian Sugar Commission.* Parts I-III. Cmd. 3517, 1930. Price 2s. (2s. 2d.). Part IV. Colonial No. 49, 1930. Price 3s. 6d. (3s. 8d.). Statement of Policy. Cmd. 3523, 1930. Price 1d. (2d.).
- Correspondence relating to the Position of the Sugar Industry in certain West Indian Colonies, British Guiana and Mauritius.* Cmd. 3705, 1930. Price 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.). Further Correspondence. Cmd. 3745, 1930. Price 4d. (5d.).
- Nutrition in the West Indies.* Report by B. S. PLATT. Colonial No. 195, 1946. Price 9d. (11d.).
- Labour Conditions in the West Indies.* Report by G. St. J. ORDE BROWNE. Cmd. 6070, 1939. Price 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.).
- Report of a Commission appointed to consider problems of Education in Trinidad, Barbados, Leeward Islands and Windward Islands, 1931-32.* Colonial No. 79, 1933. *Out of print.*
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- Agreement for the Establishment of the Caribbean Commission.* Cmd. 6972, 1946. Price 2d. (3d.).

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PART I

Review of 1950 and 1951

THE most significant constitutional development during the period under review was the passing of the Representation of the People Act, 1950. By this Act adult suffrage was introduced, the quorum of the House of Assembly was lowered from twelve members to nine and the property qualifications of members were abolished. The number of the electorate rose from 30,000 to 96,000, and a great deal of work had to be done in arranging for the registration of the adult population. It is estimated that about 95 per cent of persons entitled to vote registered their names.

The 1948-51 Sessions of the House of Assembly ended in November, 1951, and the first general election under adult suffrage was held in December. Few people realised the difficulties and the amount of detailed preparation that had to precede the election. The number of polling stations rose from about 50 to 213 ; many more polling booths, ballot boxes, secret stamps and election documents had to be provided ; and a small army of election officers had to be chosen and taught their duties. Legislation was passed to ensure the smooth working of polling day and to prevent unruly incidents. The arrangements were so successful that a "Sunday morning" atmosphere prevailed on election day, and only one untoward incident was reported throughout the Island.

As a result of the election, 1952 opens with a House of Assembly in which the Labour Party has a strong working majority for the first time. Somewhat surprising was the fact that although the property qualifications of members had been abolished the number of candidates putting themselves forward for election was slightly smaller than the number of those standing in the previous election. The members in the new House were 24 as previously, including the first woman to be elected.

In addition to the abolition of the Grand Juries another traditional link with the past was broken by the passage of the Accountant General Act. Previously the appointment to this Colonial Treasurer's office was vested in the House of Assembly and was the only appointment in the Civil Service not made by the Crown. The Legislatures of the past were particularly jealous of their control over the finances of the Government, but it was recognised that such control could be equally effective without the retention of this power of appointment, which raised practical difficulties. So ended an arrangement that had been in force since 1710.

After the passage of the controversial Petroleum Act, which vested the ownership of petroleum in the Governor-in-Executive Committee, the Gulf Oil Company obtained in 1950 a concession to prospect over

an area of about half the Island. During the period various types of survey have been carried out.

Rainfall during the period was abnormally heavy and the two sugar crops were both records in size, although the quality of the cane juice and the recovery of sugar from the cane were disappointing. In 1950 production was the equivalent of 158,183 tons of sugar as compared with 152,731 tons in the good year of 1949. Nineteen fifty-one was an even better year, and a total of 187,643 tons was achieved. The size of this crop may be judged by comparing it with the average tonnaged for the three year periods :

1942-1944	.	.	110,964 tons
1945-1948	.	.	107,726 „
1949-1951	.	.	166,189 „

In the Annual Estimates of 1951-52 a first contribution of \$150,000 was made to a Revenue Equalisation Fund. This Fund is to be built up in good years to meet any heavy recession of revenue and avoid as far as possible any reduction of the public services in bad years.

Nineteen fifty marked the centenary of the Barbados Agricultural Society's Annual Exhibition. This annual exhibition of cattle, poultry, fruit and agricultural produce, of local industries, arts and crafts, and other activities, has grown until it is now of considerable importance in the Island and gives the general public a chance to see something of almost every local industry.

The Island was honoured by a visit from Her Royal Highness Princess Alice and the Earl of Athlone. Her Royal Highness, who arrived in H.M.S. *Glasgow*, on 7th March, 1950 spent three days in Barbados on her way to Jamaica to open the University College of the West Indies. Among the places visited by Her Royal Highness were Erdiston Teachers' Training College, Harrison College, the Nightengale Children's Home, Codrington College and St. John's Church. It was several years since a member of the Royal Family last visited the Island.

Visits were paid in 1950 by H.M. Ships *Devonshire*, *Glasgow* and *Sparrow*, and in 1951 by H.M. Ships *Devonshire* and *Bigbury Bay*. The visit of the latter was in two parts as it was during its stay in the Island that it was called away to help after the hurricane in Jamaica. Visits were also paid in April, 1951, by H.M. Canadian ships *Magnificent* and *Micmac*.

The Governor, Sir Alfred Savage, on 7th May, 1951, opened the twelfth Meeting of the Caribbean Commission in the Legislative Council Chambers. The Commission then adjourned to Hastings House, the Headquarters of the Colonial Development and Welfare Organisation, and during the following week held a number of sessions mainly on developing the industries of the various territories.

Other conferences held during the period in Barbados were—in 1950 a Conference of the Financial Officers on revaluation, a Conference of the Commissioners of West Indian Police Forces, the fourth Conference of the Federation of Civil Service Associations, the Preparatory

Committee on the scheme for a Unified Currency for the Eastern Group of the British West Indian Territories, the third Labour Conference and the first Annual General Meeting of the Federation of Primary Producers of the British Caribbean. In 1951 the Oils and Fats Conference, the Supply Officers Conference and a Meeting of the Regional Economic Committee were held.

As a result of the work of the Currency Committee unified currency notes were put into circulation in August, 1951, for the territories of Barbados, British Guiana, the Leeward Islands, Trinidad and Tobago, and the Windward Islands, and the Board of Commissioners of Currency, British Caribbean Territories (Eastern Group) was set up.

Bishop Hughes resigned from the See of Barbados in February, 1951, and in May the Very Reverend G. L. G. Mandeville, Dean of St. Michael's Cathedral was elected the ninth Bishop of Barbados. He is the first Barbadian to hold this office.

In September, 1949, Trans-Canada Airlines offered to operate a regular service from Montreal if the Government would provide adequate landing facilities. It was decided to build a new runway, as the existing one at Seawell was too short and not strong enough for regular use by heavy aircraft. This was finished in May, 1951, after which was considerable delay and the result has not been wholly satisfactory mainly because of abnormally heavy rain while it was being built. Most of the cost of the new runway (\$1,620,000 out of a total cost of \$1,700,000) was provided from funds made available under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act (Scheme D.1294).

For the past two years the annual budgets have been described as "housekeeper" as the programme of capital works and the revision of the Ten-Year Development Plan has been postponed pending a survey of the Island's fiscal position. In addition to the construction of the new runway at Seawell, however, progress has been made with schemes financed from local funds and from funds made available under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act.

Schemes financed from local funds included the completion of a number of school buildings that had been started in previous years, and the completion of the Health Centre at Speightstown. The Government Housing Scheme was continued at the Pine and Bay Estates and much money was spent on improvements to tenantry roads and on road reconstruction. Improvement of the water supply, estimated to cost nearly \$2,000,000 has gone ahead, \$310,000 being voted in 1950-51 and a further \$332,000 in 1951-52. During the period \$33,000 was provided for improving the fishing fleet. Unfortunately this industry suffered a serious set back towards the end of 1951, when an unexpected and unaccountable heavy swell arose on the Leeward Coast during the night of 2nd/3rd December. Forty fishing vessels were completely destroyed and 43 more were seriously damaged. This was a serious loss in a fishing fleet only numbering some 600 boats, and it was particularly unfortunate that it happened just at the beginning of the flying-fish season. Plans were immediately made to repair the damaged boats and replace those that had been

destroyed and relief payments were made for a period of seven weeks to those fishermen who had been entirely dependent on their vessels for their livelihood. A Relief Fund which was started by the *Barbados Advocate* raised more than \$5,000.

Apart from Seawell Runway the most important scheme that is financed from the funds made available under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act is the scheme for agricultural development (D.217). This scheme, for which the sum of \$1,059,000 had been approved (part from local funds) will expire at the end of the financial year 1951-52, but approval for an extension has been sought. The operation of parts of the scheme has, however, been taken over by the Government. This includes the running of the Central Livestock Station and the six District Agricultural Stations which are doing valuable work in improving livestock and agricultural methods among peasant proprietors. The most important part of the scheme for agricultural development still being financed from Colonial Development and Welfare funds is the "Peasants' Irrigation Scheme". This has been delayed because it is difficult to get water-well testing and pumping equipment, and a great deal of preliminary investigation has still to be done. An Irrigation Officer joined the staff of the Agricultural Department during the year.

The development of the water resources scheme (D.1503) was held up because a drilling rig did not arrive until early in 1952.

The financing of the scheme for the extension of the Children's Museum (D.206) from Colonial Development and Welfare funds will cease at the end of the financial year 1951-52, and the cost of continuing this work will then be paid for by the Barbados Museum and Historical Society.

The financing of the Social Welfare Department (D.237) from Colonial Development and Welfare funds ended in September, 1951, and the department is now part of the Civil Establishment of the Island.

A list of Colonial Development and Welfare schemes initiated, in progress, or completed during 1950 and 1951 is given in an appendix to this chapter.

Attention was drawn in Part I of the Report for 1949 to the three important reports published during that year. Reference has been made earlier to the passing of the Petroleum Act which followed the report by the late Mr. G. W. Lepper, but no progress was made on the question of the deep water harbour (Report on the Proposed Construction of a Deep Water Wharf, by Sir Douglas Ritchie, M.C., Vice-Chairman, Port of London Authority). Legislation to implement the more important proposals contained in the Report on Local Government in Barbados, by Sir John Maude, K.C.B., K.B.E. (but with the important modification of six councils instead of the three recommended in the report) was introduced in the House of Assembly late in 1951, but the Bill had not been debated when the Legislature was prorogued in November. It has since been introduced into the new House of Assembly, with provision for one City Council and two

Rural Councils, thus following the pattern suggested by Sir John Maude.

During the period under review three important Reports were received, all of which had their origin in the Montego Bay Conference of 1947. The Report of the British Caribbean Standing Close Association Committee was signed in October, 1949, (Colonial No. 255) and was laid before both Houses of the Legislature in April, 1950. The Report of the Commission on the Unification of the Public Services in the British Caribbean Area (Colonial No. 254) was also laid on the same day. Finally the Report of the Commission on the Establishment of a Customs Union in the British Caribbean Area (Colonial No. 268) was laid in February, 1951.

On the day before the dissolution of the Legislature in November, 1951, the House of Assembly formally agreed with the principle of establishing a Federal Government of the British West Indies and accepted the proposals of the Report of the Standing Closer Association Committee as a basis for discussion, but did not wholly accept the details.

On the same day the House of Assembly expressed general agreement with the Report by Sir Maurice Holmes, G.B.E., K.C.B., on the Unification of the Public Services in the British Caribbean Area. No replies have yet been received from the Legislative Council on these two matters. At the beginning of the new session the Report of the Standing Closer Association Committee was referred by the House of Assembly to a Select Committee for further examination. This Committee has not yet reported.

No progress has been made with the Report of the Commission on the establishment of a Customs Union in the British Caribbean Area.

The conclusion of the long-term Sugar Agreement between the United Kingdom and the British West Indian Colonies, in accordance with which prices were guaranteed for a number of years, caused general satisfaction and paved the way for a very important domestic sugar agreement between representatives of the Sugar Producers' Federation and the Barbados Workers' Union. (Further details are given on page 13).

Prices have continued to rise during the period. The cost-of-living index figure, on a basis of 100 on 30th September, 1939, stood at 228 on 1st January, 1950, and rose steadily to 292 at 31st December, 1951. As a result of the expansion of the trade liberalisation plan with North America salt fish and balanced animal feed were placed on open general licence, the price was decontrolled and the commodities were no longer subsidised. The price of animal feed rose towards the end of the period and this in turn has forced up the price of meat, eggs and milk. A cost-of-living allowance was granted to the Civil Service in June, 1951, of \$96 per annum on the first \$480, \$36 on the second \$480 and \$24 on the third \$480 of salary.

Finally, in the world of sport, six Barbadians, including the Captain, J. D. Goddard, were members of the West Indian Cricket team which visited England in 1950 and crowned a very successful tour by winning

three and drawing one of the five Tests played. The players were given a great reception on their return to the Island and the day of their arrival was declared a public holiday. The award of the O.B.E. to J. D. Goddard in the 1951 Birthday Honours List was warmly acclaimed by all sections of the community.

LIST OF COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT AND WELFARE SCHEMES INITIATED, IN PROGRESS OR COMPLETED DURING PERIOD 1ST JANUARY 1950 TO 31ST DECEMBER, 1951

<i>Scheme No.</i>	<i>Grant £</i>	<i>Title</i>	
D. 13 (2)	135	Provision of minor amenities . . .	Completed
D. 13 C (ai)	300	ditto . . .	Completed
D. 50	650	Control of Soil Erosion . . .	Completed
D. 200 C (g)	177	Training of Subordinate Personnel . . .	Completed
D. 200 C (p)	330	ditto . . .	Completed
D. 201 A (a)	665	Provision of Technical Assistance . . .	Completed
D. 201 A (v)	169	ditto . . .	Completed
D. 201 A (x)	35	ditto . . .	Completed
D. 206	1,800	Estab. and maintenance of a Children's Museum . . .	In progress
D. 217	172,000	Agricultural Development . . .	In progress
D. 237	10,800	Development of Social Welfare Services (Part I)	Completed
D. 237	19,200	ditto (Part II)	Completed
D. 252 & A	8,500	Women's Work Bureau . . .	Completed
D. 305	6,733	Promotion of 4-H Club work . . .	In progress
D. 414	24,000	Training of midwives . . .	Completed
D. 511	1,200	Fisheries development . . .	Completed
D. 771 & A-C	26,475	Aeronautical Wireless Facilities . . .	In progress
D. 845	4,780	Employment of a constructional engineer . . .	In progress
D. 964 & A.B.	4,250	Labour training course . . .	In progress
D. 1108/159	1,475	Training of Personnel . . .	Initiated
D. 1108/164	60	ditto . . .	Initiated
D. 1128 & A	2,330	Regional Broadcasting Conference, Montreal . . .	In progress
D. 1150	9,000	Vital Statistics . . .	In progress
D. 1294 & A	337,500	Seawall runway . . .	Initiated
D. 1503	6,750*	Investigation of water resources . . .	Initiated
R. 72 & A.	5,750	App't. of Ceramist . . .	Completed
R. 100 (c)	500	Building material research . . .	Completed
R. 225	4,000	Survey of Friendly Societies in W. Indies . . .	In progress
R. 275	18,000	Sugar Cane research . . .	In progress
<u>£667,564</u>			

* Reduced to £6,000 on 28. 2. 1952.

PART II

Chapter 1 : Population

THE total population of Barbados, according to the West Indian Census made on 9th April, 1946, was 192,800, of which 85,727 were males and 107,073 were females. The previous count was made in 1931 when the population was given as 156,312, with 62,978 males and 93,334 females, which shows an increase of 36,529 during the fifteen years between the counts.

The population was distributed as follows :

Bridgetown	13,340
St. Michael (excluding Bridgetown)	63,097
Christ Church	24,963
St. George	14,409
St. Philip	14,876
St. John	10,096
St. James	11,297
St. Joseph	7,712
St. Thomas	8,486
St. Andrew	7,581
St. Peter	9,127
St. Lucy	7,816
	192,800

The population has continued to increase since the 1946 census and on 31st December, 1951, it was estimated to be 215,128 compared with 211,641 on 31st December, 1950. The 1951 estimate showed an increase of 22,328 over the census figure.

The population at 31st December, 1951, was estimated as follows :

Population estimated at 31st December, 1950	211,641
Natural increase—births (6,793) exceeding deaths (3,000)	3,793
Emigration (21,040) exceeding Immigration (20,734)	306
Population at 31st December, 1951	215,128

The density of population is calculated at 1,288 persons to the square mile.

Marriages

There were 1,001 marriages performed during 1950 and 1,092 in 1951, compared with 951 in 1949. This figure includes marriages performed by Civil Magistrates and twenty religious denominations. The marriage rate per 1,000 of population was 9·7 in 1950 and 10·3 in 1951.

Births and Deaths

The number of births has increased steadily during the past few years and there has been a slight fluctuation in the illegitimacy rate. The number of deaths, including deaths under five years, have remained about the same. During the year only four deaths were not certified.

The following are the figures for the last five years :

Year	BIRTHS			DEATHS	
	No.	Rate per 1,000	% of Illegitimate	No.	Rate per 1,000
1944	5,928	29·10	56·91	3,341	16·41
1945	6,047	28·47	54·55	3,164	14·89
1946	6,175	31·60	53·74	3,289	16·83
1947	6,425	32·28	54·48	3,204	16·09
1948	6,625	32·68	53·00*	3,139	15·48
1949	6,357	31·06	56·54	2,979	14·56
1950	6,432	30·74	57·38	2,688	12·85
1951	6,793	31·83	n.a.	3,000	14·06

* Estimated.

Infant Mortality

Out of the total number of deaths in 1950 (1,217 males and 1,471 females) 805, made up of 427 males and 378 females, were under one year of age. The infant mortality rates of children under one year per 1,000 live births for the past five years are as follows :

1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951
186	150	157	163	149	133	125	136

The chief causes of infant mortality were diarrhoea, enteritis, pneumonia and congenital debility.

Chapter 2 : Occupations, Wages and Labour Organisation

OCCUPATIONS

The economy of the Island depends almost entirely on the sugar industry and the chief occupation of the people is the cultivation and reaping of sugar cane. It is estimated that between 20,000 and 25,000 men and women are engaged primarily in the cultivation side of the industry. Most of these workers were employed on the sugar estates,

but a number have small holdings of their own which they also cultivate. There were, in all, over 30,000 peasant holdings of less than 10 acres, or more than a third of which sugar cane was planted.

During the years 1949 and 1950 the Island was blessed with a well-distributed rainfall which resulted in the two largest crops in its history. In 1950 the total production of sugar or its equivalent in fancy molasses was 158,183 tons. This was a record which was broken in 1951, the production being 187,643 tons. In each of these years there were 24 sugar factories and 12 syrup plants in operation. Over 2,000 workers were employed in these factories and plants. Occupations ancillary to the sugar industry (such as packing, transport and shipment) continue to employ large numbers of workers.

The distribution of workers among the main occupations remained unchanged. The approximate employment figures were as follows :

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Sugar Estates	12,000	10,000
Sugar Factories	2,000	200
Domestic and Other Personal Services	2,500	11,500
Retail and Wholesale Trades	5,000	7,000
Construction	7,000	300
Transport and Communication	3,000	100
Manufacturing and Repairing Machinery and Vehicles	2,000	—

The estimated number of unskilled able-bodied men who are either unemployed or underemployed remains at 5,000. The number of women who cannot be fully employed is about the same.

The engagement of Barbadians for short-term contracts by private employers in the United States of America continued during 1950 and 1951. In 1950 only 100 workers were sent under this scheme and were engaged by the United States Sugar Corporation. In 1951 there were 1,600 men recruited for work in the midwest, chiefly Wisconsin. Most of these men returned home by the end of 1951. The workers agreed to refund the cost of their transport to the United States which was advanced by the Barbados Government and the employers. On repatriation of workers who completed their contracts their expenses were met partly by their last employer, partly by the Barbados Government, and partly by themselves. At the end of the year there were 627 men still working under contracts in the United States.

Curaçao, Netherlands West Indies, employed 173 new workers during 1950 and 1951, but Aruba took no workers during this period. The men were recruited by agents under licence.

The period under review witnessed the closing down of His Majesty's Dockyard in Bermuda and the repatriation was concluded of Barbadian contract workers from that Colony.

At the beginning of 1950 five families remained in Surinam out of the 25 who emigrated there in August, 1948. During 1950 one family returned and another came back in 1951 at the end of the three-year contract. The three remaining workers, with their families, chose to

remain in Surinam, but all left agricultural employment and are working as artisans.

WAGES

The years 1950 and 1951 were happy ones for workers in the sugar industry, both by reason of the size of the crop and the increase in the price offered for sugar by the United Kingdom Ministry of Food. By voluntary negotiations between the Sugar Producers' Federation of Barbados and the Barbados Workers' Union it was agreed that 1950 rates would be increased by $12\frac{1}{2}$ per cent on 1949 rates, and 1951 rates by $12\frac{1}{2}$ per cent on 1950 rates. The cane-cutting rate therefore advanced from $57\frac{1}{2}$ cents per ton in 1949 to 65 cents per ton in 1950 and further to 73 cents per ton in 1951. At the end of 1951 the time rates advanced to 21 cents and 15 cents per hour for male and female labourers respectively. In addition all field and factory workers received a cash bonus on their total earnings at the end of each reaping season. This was 7 per cent in 1950 and 19 per cent in 1951.

In the sugar and syrup factories the rates of wages continued to be based on the ton of sugar and the puncheon of molasses and varied with the size and efficiency of the factory. The basic wage rates for out-of-crop mechanics, fixed by a negotiated agreement, varied from 18 cents an hour to 36 cents an hour with a $12\frac{1}{2}$ per cent allowance on total earnings. This agreement ended on 31st December, 1951.

Wage rates for all port labour have been increased since 1949. Most of these rates are covered by agreements signed by representatives of the Shipping and Mercantile Association of Barbados and the Barbados Workers' Union.

A cost-of-living allowance has been made to the entire Civil Service, including casual workers, as follows : on the first \$480 per annum—20 per cent, on the second \$480 per annum— $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent, and on the third \$480 per annum—5 per cent, subject to a maximum of \$156 per annum. This allowance began on 16th June, 1951.

COST OF LIVING

The cost-of-living index shows an increase from 228 at the end of December, 1949, to 242 at the end of May, 1950. These increases were due to higher prices which resulted mainly from the devaluation of the pound sterling. Imports of cheaper articles of clothing caused a fall of one point in June, 1950, and the index remained at 241 until the beginning of November when it rose to 242. At the end of May, 1951, the index had risen to 264.

In June, 1951, a Committee appointed by the Governor-in-Executive Committee to report on the operation of the index recommended that, until the results were available of the survey on income and consumption in the Colony which was then being carried out by the Institute of Social and Economic Research of the University College of the West Indies, the present index be continued but weighted according to the 1949 pattern of imports and local consumption. At the end of

OCCUPATIONS, WAGES AND LABOUR ORGANISATION 13

December, 1951, through further increases in the prices of commodities and services mainly caused by the continued effect of the devaluation of the pound sterling, the index had risen to 292.

During the period under review Government continued to subsidise flour, and salted pork.

The following table shows the cost-of-living index figure at the end of each month from September, 1939 :

(January–August, 1939—Basis 100)

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1939	.	.	—	—	—	—	—	—	100	110	111	111
1940	.	.	114	112	113	118	122	121	122	122	123	122
1941	.	.	124	124	125	128	129	130	130	131	134	136
1942	.	.	137	140	142	145	149	152	153	156	161	164
1943	.	.	156	164	162	162	163	166	166	166	170	168
1944	.	.	168	169	168	175	175	176	182	186	189	185
1945	.	.	185	183	183	186	186	186	187	187	191	189
1946	.	.	196	196	196	197	200	200	214	212	215	215
1947	.	.	228	224	228	228	225	225	223	223	224	226
1948	.	.	226	227	228	228	231	231	232	233	235	236
1949	.	.	235	234	235	230	226	227	229	226	225	224
1950	.	.	228	230	232	242	242	241	241	241	241	242
1951	.	.	243	246	250	256	264	272	274	278	282	284

Housing continued to be a difficult problem for overseas and local officials. The repair and conversion of certain military buildings into civilian flats have contributed a little to ease the problem which was still acute at the end of the year. As there is no rent control, officers have found themselves compelled to pay increased rent or to leave the houses.

LABOUR DEPARTMENT

During the period under review, the Labour Department, which consisted of the Labour Commissioner, a Labour Inspector and clerks in 1949, was strengthened by the addition of an Assistant Labour Commissioner, two Labour Officers and another clerk. The post of Labour Inspector was abolished and the holder of that post became a Labour Officer. The temporary post of Factory Inspector was also established. The United States Savings Organisation continued to deal with the compulsory savings of emigrants to the United States of America. The six Cane-weighing Inspectors were given legal authority to check the accuracy of canewighers under the Supervision of the Weighing of Sugar Canes (Amendment) Act, 1951.

LABOUR ORGANISATION

The Labour Department continued to arrange many conciliation board meetings, both *ad hoc* and those of the Divisional Port Committee and the Joint Port Committee. Agreements, providing *inter alia* for increases in wage rates, were concluded in respect of nearly every category of port worker. An agreement was signed by the

Sugar Producers' Federation and the Barbados Workers' Union on 13th September, 1951, after nine months' negotiations characterised by much patience, forbearance and give and take on both sides, and was subsequently confirmed by the organisations concerned. Its objects, stated in the preamble, were to avoid friction and establish good industrial relations between the employers and workers in the sugar industry and to avoid protracted annual negotiations between the Federation and the Union regarding increases in the wages of workers in the sugar industry. This does not imply that relations between employers and employees were bad when the negotiations began ; it was because these were already good that the negotiations were able to begin and were carried through to a successful conclusion. The agreement, which covers the years 1951, 1952, and 1953, provides in above "average crop" years for direct benefits to employees by way of an improved bonus scheme, indirect benefits to employees by way of increased contributions to the Labour Welfare Fund, and a levy for the benefit of the industry as a whole to be credited either to a Harbour Fund or to the Stabilisation Fund. It was decided not to implement the part of the agreement about the payment of a cess to a Harbour Fund until a final decision has been taken on the deep water harbour report. Other provisions in the agreement relate to the price paid for peasants' cane, to annual consultation by the Sugar Producers' Federation with the Barbados Workers' Union when considering the percentage increases for workers in the sugar industry in relation to the external Sugar Agreement, and to the publication of an annual memorandum and certified financial statement explaining the price paid for cane. These provisions should do much to create greater confidence within the sugar industry. The Sugar Industry (Rehabilitation, Price Stabilisation and Labour Welfare) (Special Levy) Act, which gave legislative effect to the increased contributions to the Labour Welfare Fund, was passed shortly before the end of the session.

The Wages Board for Shop Assistants in Bridgetown was set up in 1950 and has so far produced two sets of decisions covering such matters as minimum wage rates, holidays with pay, and sick leave. This Board was set up under the Wages Board Act, 1943, and its decisions have the force of law.

The Caribbean Workers' Union was registered in February, 1950, and covers categories of workers similar to those dealt with by the Barbados Workers' Union. The Barbados Workers' Union and the Shipping and Mercantile Association of Barbados continued to be very active, and were the principal parties in nearly all agreements reached under the auspices of the Labour Department. The Clerks' Union has taken part in conciliation meetings with merchants in Bridgetown about minimum wages of the clerks employed in a wide variety of stores.

LEGISLATION

During 1950 the Workmen's Compensation (Amendment) Act, 1949, and the Trade Union (Amendment) Act, 1949, were brought into

force. The former revised rates of compensation for various degrees of injury, and the latter provided mainly for "contracting out" and "peaceful picketing". Other labour legislation included the Wages Board (Bridgetown Shop Assistants) Order, 1950, which set up the Wages Board for Shop Assistants in Bridgetown (referred to above) ; the Shop (Amendment) Order, 1950, which allowed shops selling fresh fruit, fresh vegetables, handicrafts and products of cottage industry to remain open at any time, and the Sugar Industry (Rehabilitation, Price Stabilisation and Labour Welfare) Order, 1950, which provided *inter alia* for a levy on the sugar industry to provide funds to assist workers in this industry to build, alter and repair their houses and to provide them with recreation facilities and playing fields.

In 1951 labour legislation included the following Acts : The Supervision of the Weighing of Sugar Canes (Amendment) Act (No. 3 of 1951), extending to Caneweighing Inspectors power to supervise and check sugar cane which is being weighed for sale ; the Workmen's Compensation (Amendment) Act (No. 4 of 1951), restoring the former alternative maxima of 156 weeks and 208 weeks wages for compensation in case of death or permanent total disablement respectively ; the Quarries Act (No. 9 of 1951), providing for registration, licensing and supervision of quarries and for safety of persons employed therein ; the Holidays with Pay Act (No. 38 of 1951), providing a minimum annual holiday with pay of two weeks ; the Apprenticeship Bursaries (Amendment) Act (No. 28 of 1951), establishing a procedure for increasing the number of Government Bursaries by resolution of the Legislature without recourse to amendment of the principal act ; the Labour Department (Amendment) Act (No. 43 of 1951), widening the powers of inspection of the Labour Commissioner and his senior staff ; the Factories (Amendment) Act (No. 53 of 1951), improving the administration of factory inspection and increasing its scope (neither this nor the principal act was proclaimed at the end of 1951) ; the Accidents and Occupational Diseases (Notification) Act (No. 59 of 1951), requiring employers and medical practitioners to notify the Labour Commissioners of injuries and occupational diseases occurring to work people, with a view to preventing recurrence ; the Shops (Amendment) Act (No. 61 of 1951), narrowing the definition of "shop assistant" and permitting the opening of shops on early closing days in Christmas and Easter week ; the Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children Act (No. 68 of 1951), implementing relevant International Labour Office (revised) Conventions ; the Protection of Workers' Act (No. 64 of 1951), requiring employers *inter alia* to pay workers all their wages in legal tender, and the Sugar Industry (Rehabilitation, Price Stabilization and Labour Welfare) (Special Levy) Act (No. 52 of 1951), providing *inter alia* for increase in the levy payable to the Labour Welfare Fund in above-normal crop years.

Chapter 3 : Public Finance and Taxation

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE

The comparative figures of revenue and expenditure for 1949-50, 1950-51 and 1951-52 with those of 1939-40 and 1940-41 are as follows:

		<i>Revenue</i> \$	<i>Expenditure</i> \$
1939-40	.	2,685,523	2,688,182
1940-41	.	3,069,484	3,930,048
1949-50	.	9,587,036	10,323,903
1950-51	.	10,866,850	9,642,684
1951-52*	.	12,597,802	11,253,115

* Revised estimate.

The comparative table of revenue figures for the 1949-50, 1950-51 and the revised estimates for 1951-52 is as follows :

<i>Head</i>	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52 (<i>Revised estimate</i>)
	\$	\$	\$
Customs and Excise	4,743,745	5,465,218	6,506,000
Taxation	3,071,238	3,838,703	4,625,000
Licences	73,449	131,088	126,075
Fines	11,920	15,853	15,100
Rents and Royalties	38,008	36,019	39,745
Interest and Redemption . .	83,629	65,444	53,194
Net Revenue from Government Commercial undertakings	99,704	199,645	33,400
Revenue from Government Departments and Services	946,579	994,479	1,106,987
Special Receipts	518,764	120,401	92,301

The comparative table of expenditure figures for the three years is as follows :

<i>Head</i>	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52 (<i>Revised estimate</i>)
	\$	\$	\$
Governor	34,333	34,807	38,355
Colonial Secretary	55,435	52,711	62,000
Colonial Treasurer	21,268	18,992	32,100
Auditor General	26,931	24,397	32,500
Harbour Master	68,728	62,459	69,200
Customs	191,024	247,427	197,300
Powder Magazine	617	487	530
Public Market	29,280	30,193	30,500
Fire Brigade	42,631	36,108	38,800
Lighthouses	11,894	12,251	13,140
Registration Office	28,379	30,308	35,200
Legislature	74,692	63,091	66,000
Legal Departments	156,456	162,805	159,000
Police	691,018	703,595	729,000
Prisons	92,703	96,796	104,500
Government Industrial			
Schools	40,104	58,500	52,150
Commissioners of Currency	9,781	54,460	—
Ecclesiastical	95,774	94,536	95,400
Education	1,540,521	1,651,566	1,799,000
Agriculture	231,713	255,197	288,000
Public Library	29,026	28,296	31,000
Medical Departments	949,919	1,036,729	1,227,852
Barbados Regiment	46,993	64,176	75,100
Public Works	190,362	192,884	192,900
Pensions	451,343	476,750	488,200
Charges of Debt	158,140	158,140	158,160
Subsidies and Grants	230,492	243,781	273,696
Miscellaneous Services	215,551	252,400	827,450
Income Tax	246,451	320,993	255,000
Labour Department	117,449	64,985	320,000
Highways and Transport	733,692	626,684	730,000
Airport	33,737	42,897	60,000
Electrical Inspection	17,980	15,631	27,700
Housing Board	8,642	9,799	21,600
Peasants' Loan Bank	16,872	6,192	24,800
Old Age Pensions	466,430	471,970	500,000

<i>Head</i>	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52 (Revised estimate)
	\$	\$	\$
Waterworks Department	632,984	616,140	635,300
Social Welfare Office	3,382	3,991	13,782
Architect and Planning	17,275	15,889	—
Controls and Subsidies	1,143,697	1,159,452	1,147,900
Contribution to Capital Works	250,000	100,000	400,000
Arrears of Salaries and Wages	920,202	44,319	—

Capital expenditure for the periods 1949-50 and 1950-51 was as follows* :

<i>Head</i>	1949-50	1950-51
	\$	\$
Public Buildings	454,671	134,666
Housing	281,469	243,294
Roads	300,473	215,033
Water Supplies	279,047	234,663
Other Public Works	74,289	25,926
Loans	17,400	12,600
Miscellaneous	94,293	56,697
Special Expenditure	17,813	287
Colonial Development and Welfare	250,525	1,364,102
	1,769,980	2,287,268

These capital works were financed as follows :

<i>Head</i>	1949-50	1950-51
	\$	\$
General Revenue Balance	632,780	317,980
Contribution from Revenue	250,000	100,000
Colonial Development and Welfare	71,961	1,164,960
	954,741	1,582,940
Balance met from Loan Funds and C.D.W.	815,239	704,328
	1,769,980	2,287,268
Loan Funds	\$1,141,861	
C.D.W.	\$ 377,706	

PUBLIC DEBT

The public debt at 31st December, 1951, was \$2,905,728, the sinking funds on that date being \$1,407,214, leaving a net public debt of

* Capital expenditure in 1951-52 amounted to \$1,746,664 ; details are not yet available.

\$1,498,514, compared with sinking funds of \$1,202,076 and a net public debt of \$1,703,652 on 31st of December, 1949.

The position of the loans is :

<i>Loan and Amount</i>	<i>Amount out- standing</i>	<i>Sinking Fund at 31st December, 1951, at Cost</i>	<i>Date redeemable</i>	<i>Rate of interest</i>
	\$	\$		
Public Loan Act, 1914 and the Reimburse- ment Act, 1914— \$1,195,200 . . .	177,600	153,848	\$148,800—1961 \$ 28,800—1963	\$52,800 at 4% \$28,800 at 4½% \$96,000 at 5%
General Local Loan Act, 1933, and Public Loans (Redemption) Act, 1933—\$676,416 .	676,416	424,312	1964	3½% per annum
Waterworks Loan Act, 1935—\$746,400 . . .	746,400	396,523	1961	3% „ „
Education Loan Act, 1935—\$397,872 . . .	397,872	134,860	1966	3½% „ „
Waterworks Loan Act, 1941—\$169,920 . . .	169,920	56,730	1966	3½% „ „
Local Loan Act, 1941— \$326,400	326,400	108,864	1966	\$321,600 at 3½% \$ 4,800 at 3%
Public Loans (Redemp- tion) Act, 1942— \$411,120	411,120	132,077	1978	3½% per annum
	<u>\$2,905,728</u>	<u>\$1,407,214</u>		

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

Assets and liabilities at 31st March, 1951, were :

<i>Liabilities</i>	\$
Special Funds	1,760,371
Unexpended Balances	129,899
Miscellaneous Funds not applicable to General Revenue but included in Treasury Cash	1,783,237
General Revenue Balance	5,361,599
	<u>\$9,035,106</u>

Assets

	\$
Cash in Treasury	166,719
Cash in Banks	852,233
Due by Crown Agents	3,489,897
Advances	548,402
Other Accounts Receivable	471,083
Advances to be subsequently refunded from Loan Funds (1948-1950)	1,368,695
Advances to be subsequently refunded from Loan Funds—Colonial Development and Welfare	377,706
Investments (market value at 31st March, 1951)	1,760,371
	\$9,035,106

MAIN HEADS OF REVENUE

Customs Tariff

Specific rates of duty are imposed whenever practicable though, in view of the Island's dependence upon imported food, the duty on foodstuffs is low, especially on the main commodities.

The tariff rates were greatly affected by the Canada-West Indies Agreement of 1925 which allowed the entry of produce and manufactures from Canada at rates below those on foreign items. Goods manufactured in any part of the British Commonwealth were also included in this preference. The preference was reciprocal and exports from the Island have been granted lower rates in Commonwealth markets.

Ad valorem duties range from 1 per cent preferential to 32 per cent general, but on most articles the rates are 10 per cent preferential and 20 per cent general. All rates, both specific and *ad valorem*, are subject to a surtax of 20 per cent except those on articles named in the Trade Agreement of 1938 between the United Kingdom and the United States of America. *Ad valorem* duty is assessed on the factory cost of the item.

Exemption from payment of customs' duties is allowed on machinery and apparatus imported for use in the manufacture of sugar, rum, cotton, tobacco, etc., and in 1949 the exemption was extended to machinery and apparatus imported for irrigating agricultural lands. In 1950 exemption was granted to fishing tackle and machinery and apparatus for the manufacture of cotton yarn and cotton goods from cotton yarn. During 1947 an Act was passed enabling the importation free of duty for a period of three years of articles manufactured from Sea Island cotton grown in the British West Indies. This Act was extended for another year in 1950. Fresh fruit, firewood, charcoal, coconuts, lemon and lime juice which are imported from neighbouring islands and arrive mainly by schooner are also exempted from duty.

The baggage, personal and household effects of consuls and consular officers and of public officers in the service of the Crown transferred from any part of the Commonwealth are admitted duty free.

Excise

Rum is the only article on which an excise duty is levied. This is at the rate of \$2.54 per proof wine gallon. In addition there is a distiller's licence fee of 4 cents per gallon on all rum distilled.

Originally rum was made in Barbados by means of pot-stills, usually producing rum at the strength of 40 per cent overproof. These small stills were set up all over the Island, but they have now been mainly replaced by patented modern stills owned by four companies. These factories produce rum at strengths up to 68 per cent overproof.

Stamp Duties

Stamp duties are imposed under the Stamp Act, 1916. Duty is charged on specified instruments set out in a schedule to the Act. The Registrar is appointed adjudicator to decide the amount of any duty to be charged, with an appeal lying to the Chief Judge of the Court of Common Pleas. In certain cases unstamped or insufficiently stamped instruments may be stamped after execution on payment of the full duty and a penalty of \$24. The penalty may be remitted by the Governor-in-Executive Committee.

Stamp duty (12 cents) is required on any agreement or memorandum of agreement above a value of \$24 except for an agreement of wages or the purchase of goods, wares and merchandise. The rate of stamp duty for appraisements or valuation of property varies from 6 cents to \$4.80 depending on the value of the property. The private banks are permitted to issue bank notes on the payment of a licence of \$360. The stamp duty on cheques, receipts of \$9.60 or more, and bills of exchange payable on demand is 2 cents.

Other more important stamp duties are :

	\$	¢
Bond for payment of money not exceeding \$240	.60	
„ over \$240 and not exceeding \$480	1.20	
„ for each additional \$480 or part	.60	
Bond of indemnity	2.40	
Transfer of real or personal property depending on value	.24	
	to	.60
Deeds not otherwise described, depending on value	1.20	
	to	2.40
Lease at \$48-\$96	.48	
rising to \$720-\$960	4.80	
and for each additional \$240 or part	1.20	
Marriage licence	.48	
Mortgage, bond, debenture, covenant, bill of sale, judgment obtained or confessed	.72	
Affidavits and other notarial acts	.24	
Life insurance policy	.24	
Power of attorney	.60	
Appointment or discharge of a trustee	2.40	

Income Tax

The rates of income tax for 1951 are :

On every complete dollar of taxable income up to		\$ 480 at 2½ cents
On every complete dollar of taxable income beyond	\$ 480 and up to \$ 960 at 5	„
On every complete dollar of taxable income beyond	\$ 960 „ „ „ \$ 1,920 at 10	„
On every complete dollar of taxable income beyond	\$ 1,920 „ „ „ \$ 2,880 at 15	„
On every complete dollar of taxable income beyond	\$ 2,880 „ „ „ \$ 3,840 at 22½	„
On every complete dollar of taxable income beyond	\$ 3,840 „ „ „ \$ 4,800 at 27½	„
On every complete dollar of taxable income beyond	\$ 4,800 „ „ „ \$ 8,400 at 37½	„
On every complete dollar of taxable income beyond	\$ 8,400 „ „ „ \$12,000 at 47½	„
On every complete dollar of taxable income beyond	\$12,000 „ „ „ \$24,000 at 60	„
On every complete dollar of taxable income beyond	\$24,000	at 75 „

Income tax is not paid by residents on incomes below \$720 per annum in the case of single individuals and \$1,200 in the case of married persons. Deductions are allowed for children under 16 years at \$240 and over 16 years for children receiving full-time instruction at any university, college or school. A maximum of \$240 is allowed for any other dependants not exceeding two. Deductions are permitted for life insurances not exceeding one-sixth of the total income or 7 per cent of the actual capital sum assured or \$960, whichever is less.

There is provision for relief from double taxation of income which is also taxable in the United Kingdom or in certain other countries of the British Empire.

The income tax on companies is at a flat rate of 37½%. The rate for life assurance companies is the average of that paid by an individual with a taxable income of \$4,800.

Estate and Succession Duties

Estate and succession duties are payable under the Estate and Succession Duties Act, 1941, as amended. The scales are :

Where the value of any succession—

Where the successor is—
Husband, lineal descendant or ancestor *Brother or sister or their descendants* *A person in any other degree or stranger in blood*

		%	%	%
Exceeds \$ 96 but does not exceed \$ 2,400		½	1	2
„ \$ 2,400 „ „ „ „ \$ 4,800		1	2	3
„ \$ 4,800 „ „ „ „ \$ 9,600		1	3	4
„ \$ 9,600 „ „ „ „ \$14,400		2	4	5
„ \$14,400 „ „ „ „ \$24,000		2	4	6
„ \$24,000 „ „ „ „ \$33,600		2	5	8
„ \$33,600 „ „ „ „ \$48,000		2	5	9
„ \$48,000		2	6	10

Relief in the case of quick succession to land or business is allowed at the following rates :

Where the second death occurs within one	year	of the first death	75%
" " " " " "	two	years " " " "	60%
" " " " " "	three	" " " " "	45%
" " " " " "	four	" " " " "	30%
" " " " " "	five	" " " " "	15%

Other Taxation

The other principal taxes are the package tax, tax on motor spirit and diesel fuel used in road vehicles, and the police tax.

The yield from these taxes for three years was as follows :

	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52 (<i>Estimate</i>)
	\$	\$	\$
Package tax	160,029	79,702	170,000
Tax on motor spirit	569,693	641,173	600,000
Police tax	20,318	23,110	22,000

The package tax is levied under the Package Tax Act, 1941, by which a levy of 12 cents is made for every parcel of goods, wares and merchandise imported into the Island or taken out of bond for consumption in the Island. There are certain exemptions. Goods and merchandise arriving in bulk are also subject to package tax in accordance with a schedule which sets out the amount of the article that is deemed to be a package, for example, every 5 cwt. of machinery is considered one package and every 500 superficial feet of one inch thickness or less of timber. This tax is collected by the Customs in the usual way, or if the package arrives by post, by the Post Office.

The tax on motor spirit is 2 cents per gallon and is collected from the importer.

The authority for the police tax is contained in the Police Act, 1891. It is in effect a rate levied on landowners. The rate of tax is 16 cents per acre and 4 cents in the pound of the annual rent of houses, but is not levied on both rent and land. The tax is collected by Parochial Treasurers but paid into the Public Treasury.

Chapter 4 : Currency and Banking

CURRENCY

In 1950 the Currency Act was passed as a result of an Agreement between the Governments of Barbados, British Guiana, the Leeward Islands, Trinidad and Tobago and the Windward Islands setting up a Board of Commissioner of Currency, British Caribbean Territories (Eastern Group). The notes of this unified currency were first issued on 1st August, 1951, and the notes issued by the Barbados Government were gradually withdrawn from that date.

The new currency notes are \$1, \$2, \$5, \$10, \$20 and \$100. Private banks have in the past been allowed to issue restricted currency. Government accounts are kept in dollars. British coin is legal tender.

The West Indian dollar is fixed at 4s. 2d., that is \$4.80 to £1 sterling.

The total issue of notes at 31st December, 1951, amounted to \$4,802,840 in the following denominations and amounts :

<i>Denomination</i>	<i>Barbados Government</i>		<i>Currency Board Eastern Territories</i>	
\$	No.	\$	No.	\$
1.00	132,963	132,963	620,000	620,000
2.00	19,791	39,582	110,000	220,000
5.00	83,363	416,815	315,000	1,575,000
10.00	—	—	50,400	504,000
20.00	6,099	121,980	31,500	630,000
100.00	1,425	142,500	4,000	400,000
		\$853,840		\$3,949,000

BANKING

Commercial Banks

There are three overseas banks operating in the Colony—Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas), the Royal Bank of Canada and the Canadian Bank of Commerce. The paid-up capital of each is respectively £4,975,500, \$35,000,000 and \$40,000,000, and the head offices are in London, Montreal and Toronto.

Government Savings Bank

In addition to the commercial banks there is a Government Savings Bank, in which, at the end of June, 1951, it is estimated that there were 43,300 depositors, about 4,700 more than in 1949 ; the total sum to their credit was estimated at \$11,082,000, an increase of \$1,168,000 compared with 1949. The market value of invested funds is \$10,952,078. The rate of interest on deposits is 3 per cent a year, and since April, 1933, there has been a limit of \$1,440 on new deposits.

A travelling bank consisting of a motor van fitted out for the use of outlying parishes, which was introduced in 1949, has proved very popular particularly during the crop season.

A new system of keeping the records by mechanical methods was introduced during the period.

Peasants' Loan Bank

The Peasants' Loan Bank was established in 1937 with a capital of \$480,000 to be advanced from the Public Treasury as the bank from time to time might require. The Bank makes loans for various agricultural purposes such as irrigation and the purchase of livestock and manures to enable the peasant proprietors to bring back into cultivation holdings abandoned through lack of capital. A peasant proprietor is defined as one who owns 10 acres or less. The bank is

a body corporate. It is controlled by a board of directors of five members appointed as follows : the Director of Agriculture appointed by the Governor, one member appointed sessionally by the Legislative Council, two members appointed sessionally by the House of Assembly and one member appointed by the Agricultural Society of the Island. The accounts of the bank are audited by the Auditor General, and a copy of his report is forwarded to the Governor and published in the *Official Gazette*. During the period 1st June, 1949 to 31st May, 1950, loans were made amounting to \$35,603 to 512 persons, and for the same period for 1950 to 1951 loans amounting to \$41,211 were made to 582 persons.

The Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank

The Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank was established in 1907 and founded on a grant of \$384,000 made by the Imperial Treasury in order to assist the sugar industry of the Colony. The Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank Act, 1907, was replaced by the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank Act of 1943 in order that the usefulness of the money available might be extended to make loans for the carrying on of the management of sugar factories in the same way as the previous Act authorised loans for sugar plantations and sugar cultivation.

The net profit for the financial year 1949-50 amounted to \$17,011 and for 1950-51 to \$16,731.

The Barbados Co-operative Bank Limited

The Barbados Co-operative Bank Limited is a privately owned bank incorporated in 1938, with a registered capital of \$240,000. The number of depositors at the end of the financial year 1950-51 (28th February) was 19,166 and the balance to the credit of depositors was \$576,577.

Chapter 5 : Commerce

IMPORTS

Imports for 1951 were \$51,918,327 compared with \$38,726,132 in 1950 and \$33,948,619 in 1949 : the increase was chiefly due to the increased imports of goods mainly from the United Kingdom. The principal increases were in respect of animal foods, flour, art silk piece-goods, boots and shoes.

The values and quantities of the main items imported in 1949, 1950 and 1951 are set out below :

Item	Unit	1949		1950		1951	
		Quantity	Value \$	Quantity	Value \$	Quantity	Value \$
Beer, ale, etc.	gallons	209,857	351,552	247,145	439,881	320,479	663,951
Animal foods	lb.	18,529,213	803,691	21,461,006	1,313,424	23,194,081	1,546,709
Rice	..	17,684,833	1,025,721	19,690,989	1,299,605	17,718,492	1,204,857

BARBADOS

Item	Unit	1949		1950		1951	
		Quantity	Value \$	Quantity	Value \$	Quantity	Value \$
Flour ..	lb.	22,506,092	1,377,924	22,441,608	1,787,675	22,022,168	2,022,444
Pork, salted ..	"	3,551,534	710,307	3,376,837	742,905	4,421,180	1,105,295
Milk ..	"	2,399,168	577,469	2,007,500	483,887	2,699,256	809,777
Lumber ..	ft.	9,990,992	1,333,448	8,227,210	1,290,618	13,142,596	2,017,212
Cotton piece-goods	sq. yd.	3,130,491	1,577,208	2,329,709	1,186,098	2,596,656	1,799,020
Art. Silk piece-goods	" "	1,185,360	895,925	1,616,857	1,189,262	2,066,646	1,794,143
Hardware ..	"	—	651,277	—	653,450	—	984,968
Machinery ..	"	—	2,023,130	—	1,823,034	—	1,941,169
Motor cars and trucks ..	no.	512	868,294	637	1,106,174	801	1,611,491
Boots and shoes	pairs	235,409	563,521	334,836	848,010	329,497	1,123,555
Iron and steel manufactures	"	—	882,979	—	1,093,205	—	1,537,678

The value of goods imported from the sterling area increased and that of goods from the dollar area decreased. The value of goods from the United Kingdom rose from \$13,836,929 in 1949 to \$18,042,742 in 1950 and to \$23,589,150 in 1951. This was due partly to the deflection of trade from the dollar to the sterling areas and to increased prices. Imports from Australia amounted to \$1,280,978 in 1950 and \$1,602,288 in 1951. The main items were butter and meat of all kinds.

Imports from Canada decreased from \$7,287,117 in 1949 to \$5,588,959 in 1950 and rose again to \$8,314,894 in 1951. The main import from Canada, flour, showed an increase of \$116,974 on 1950.

Imports from the United States of America were worth \$4,240,555 in 1949, \$2,573,823 in 1950 and \$2,834,877 in 1951. This decrease was due to the reduction in the volume and value of goods licensed for import from hard currency countries.

EXPORTS

The total value of exports excluding transit trade was \$35,466,166 in 1951, \$27,643,082 in 1950 and \$22,504,975 in 1949. The increase was due chiefly to a larger sugar crop.

The following are comparative figures of the quantities and values of the main exports :

Item	Unit	1949		1950		1951	
		Quantity	Value \$	Quantity	Value \$	Quantity	Value \$
Sugar ..	tons	126,609	15,714,738	131,743	18,566,875	152,762	23,213,160
Molasses ..	gallons	6,143,928	3,275,316	8,835,842	5,166,074	8,762,527	6,625,393
Rum ..	"	647,748	1,225,164	902,296	1,415,940	1,352,178	1,983,818
Soap ..	lb.	238,511	36,967	370,328	57,344	741,920	153,577
Margarine ..	"	326,868	114,404	370,405	129,642	604,845	251,012
Edible Oil ..	gallons	40,063	62,122	56,902	88,211	78,799	141,050
Cotton lint ..	lb.	58,274	58,274	34,980	36,379	15,193	18,232

The main increases over 1950 were : sugar to the United Kingdom \$2,063,005 and to Canada \$2,545,987 ; molasses to Canada \$957,340, to the United Kingdom \$397,374 and to the U.S.A. \$93,715 ; rum to the United Kingdom \$68,968, to Canada \$170,127 and to St. Kitts-Nevis \$82,135.

The main exportable products of the Island are dark crystal sugar, muscovado sugar, fancy molasses, choice molasses, vacuum pan molasses and rum, which are all products of the sugar cane. Sugars of all grades exported in 1951 amounted to 152,762.5 tons ; it is estimated that 8,000 tons were consumed locally. Exports of choice molasses which is a by-product of muscovado sugar manufacture, totalled 104,886 wine gallons ; fancy molasses, 6,346,439 wine gallons and vacuum pan molasses, 2,311,202 wine gallons.

GENERAL

The prosperity of the Island centres on the sugar crop and the prices of sugar and other products of the industry.

Large imports of foodstuffs and lumber are essential to an island whose economy is based on sugar and which lacks the space for growing adequate food crops. Although ground provisions are grown, it is not possible to produce the items which constitute the staple diet of the people—flour, rice and salted pork. The Island has no timber so that lumber has to be imported for building. Machinery is necessary for the sugar industry.

The visible adverse balance of trade, \$51,918,327 imports against \$35,464,166 exports, was \$16,454,161 in 1950. An adverse balance has been an invariable feature of the trade of the Island and is in part offset by interest received on capital investments abroad, remittances from Barbadians who have settled overseas, and by tourist traffic.

The value of trade for the post-war compared with the pre-war period indicates not only the increased prices of commodities, but the great advances in the standard of living of the people.

<i>Year</i>				<i>Imports</i>	<i>Exports</i>
				\$	\$
1937	.	.	.	10,659,120	7,192,036
1938	.	.	.	10,017,124	5,848,219
1946	.	.	.	23,963,961	15,082,387
1947	.	.	.	34,199,664	17,832,513
1948	.	.	.	30,461,904	14,631,192
1949	.	.	.	33,948,619	22,504,975
1950	.	.	.	38,726,132	27,643,082
1951	.	.	.	51,918,327	35,464,166

Chapter 6 : Production

AGRICULTURE

Barbados has an area of about 106,500 acres of which 88,597 acres are stated in the 1946 Census Report to be occupied by 4,881 farms of one acre and over. The land in these farms is divided as follows : cultivated, 59,043 acres ; other cultivable, 2,150 acres ; pasture, 17,594 acres ; woodland, 1,510 acres and other land, 8,300 acres. The area under irrigation from wells is approximately 500 acres.

All arable land has been farmed as plantations for generations and has been owned by the occupiers or worked by local attorneys on behalf of absentee proprietors. Plantations vary in size from 10 to 500 acres. During the past thirty to forty years a number of these plantations have been cut up into small holdings and sold to peasants. The number of small plots of one acre and under is given as 26,515. Methods of tenure are by complete purchase, incomplete purchase, under will, heir-at-law, as agent for owner abroad, or for deceased owner and otherwise.

*Sugar Cane**

Sugar can is grown as the principal crop on all plantations and on nearly all smallholdings. In 1951, 35,020.7 acres of cane were reaped by plantations and an estimated 8,000 acres by small holders, making a total of 43,020 acres. The actual production of sugar was the equivalent of 187,643 tons and made up as follows :

	<i>Tons</i>
Vacuum Pan Sugars . . .	163,312.7
Muscovado . . .	1,253.6
Fancy Molasses . . .	23,076.7
	187,643.0

This was the largest amount of sugar ever produced in Barbados, being 29,460 tons more than the record 1950 crop. The yield of sugar per acre of cane grown was 4.36 tons and average cane yield, if calculated on the basis of actual cane received at all sugar factories in the Island from both plantations and peasants, was 39.31 tons per acre which is the highest ever obtained in Barbados. Juice quality and recovery were, however, poor as a result of the heavy rains which fell during the crop season.

No new vacuum pan factory for sugar manufacture has been built since 1939 ; on the contrary, seven of those operating have closed.

* See the Barbados Annual Report for 1947 for an Appendix to Chapter 6 dealing with sugar-cane breeding.

During 1951, 24 vacuum pan factories, one muscovado factory and 11 fancy molasses steam-driven plants made sugar and molasses.

Cotton

One hundred and eighty-six acres of cotton were reaped in 1951 which yielded 58,225 lb. of seed cotton ; 15,285 lb. of lint were obtained from this seed cotton. The lint was exported and the seed ground locally, the oil being used for cooking and the residue as a stock feed.

Soil erosion in the Scotland District

Owing to the wide extent of soil erosion damage in the Scotland District and the necessity for prompt action to be taken in the matter, an Advisory Board known as The Scotland District Conservation Board has been set up, under the Chairmanship of the Director of Agriculture, to advise Government on the best way to deal with the problem.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND LIVESTOCK BREEDING

A Central Livestock Station has been established on Government lands at the Pine Plantation. Dairying and the possibilities of developing an economic system of animal husbandry are being investigated. Special attention is being paid to dairying as an auxiliary to sugar production, and to the improvement of the Island's stock of milch goats, sheep, pigs and poultry. Stud centres are also maintained at the six District Agricultural Stations.

FORESTRY

The only part of Barbados where the original forest of the Island still exists is Turner's Hall Wood with an area of about 46 acres. This wood is preserved by statute.

The Island depends on timber from the United States of America and from Canada whence large quantities of pitchpine, deal, spruce, fir, etc., are imported. Some timber is also obtained from British Guiana. The bagasse of crushed sugar cane provides fuel for the sugar factories while firewood and charcoal for household purposes are imported from British Guiana and the neighbouring islands.

Considerable numbers of trees, mainly casuarina, have been distributed within the past ten years to promote afforestation and several small plantations have grown up.

FISHERIES

Schemes financed under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act and from local government funds have been made to improve the fishing industry. A Fisheries branch of the Department of Science and Agriculture was established in 1944. An Advisory Fisheries Committee assists the Director of Agriculture on fishery matters.

Schemes which are being operated provide for the maintenance, expansion and development of fisheries production and for the marketing and distribution of fish. Fish markets have been built at Bridgetown and at Oistins and it is proposed to build one at Speightstown. Successful blasting operations to remove obstructing reefs and to facilitate the passage of fishing boats, have been carried out at Conset's Channel (St. John), Martin's Bay Channel (St. John), Tent Bay (Bathsheba), Meg's Channel (St. Philip) and Crab Hill Bay (St. Lucy). "Hauling up" gear has been placed at eight different points along the coast for use in emergency. Beach shelters are being erected ; five of these sheds have already been built at landing places.

An experimental fisheries boat has been built and is being operated from the new Fisheries Experimental Station. Improved methods of fishing, the introduction of "new" types of fishing gear, improvements in the design of fishing boats and methods of curing and preserving fish under local conditions are being investigated.

As a result of experiments by the Fishery Officer, many fishermen have already adopted the improved method of catching flying fish with a gill net, and have begun to make much larger catches than before.

The Fishing Industry Control Act, 1947, was passed by the Legislature to provide for the compulsory registration of all fishing boats.

A "Loan Scheme" financed by local Government funds has been in operation since 1943. Under the scheme loans are now granted for the building and repair of boats, the purchase of new sail, rope, fishing tackle, etc., on the application of persons who in the opinion of the Advisory Fisheries Committee are unable to contribute the entire cost themselves and are dependent on the fishing industry for a living. These loans are interest free for the first year and after this are subject to interest at 3 per cent a year. As a result of this scheme, the fishing fleet has been increased by about 196 new boats. Altogether 1,293 loans have been approved for building new boats and repairing others. Up to the end of 1951, the total of approved loans was \$121,357.98 the total actually loaned \$113,701.31 and the total sum repaid \$66,599.18.

MINING

The Petroleum Act of 1950 vested the ownership of petroleum in the Governor in Executive Committee. A concession to prospect over about half the island has been granted to the Gulf Oil Corporation and a subsidiary company is now conducting various surveys.

Natural gas production, sale and distribution is controlled by a Corporation established by the Natural Gas Corporation Act 1950. Production of natural gas in 1951 was 106,131 million cubic feet.

For further information about these Acts see page 45.

CO-OPERATION

The Co-operative Societies Act was proclaimed in 1951 and so far no societies have been registered. A Co-operative Officer is attached to the staff of the Department of Science and Agriculture.

Chapter 7 : Social Services

EDUCATION

Administration

The central administration of education is vested in the Director assisted by a Deputy Director, and an Advisory Board appointed by the Governor. The school inspectorate consists of a Chief Inspector and three District Inspectors, an Inspector of Handicrafts, an Inspector of Domestic Subjects and an Inspector of Infants Methods. The establishment also includes a Supervisor of Nutrition and a Supervisor and three Assistant Supervisors of Visual Education.

Elementary Schools

There are 124 public elementary schools which are entirely maintained by Government funds, supplemented by an annual grant of \$4,920 contributed by the 11 Vestries towards the upkeep of school buildings, most of which are owned by Government, although a small number remain vested in the Church and Vestry.

There are 49 schools for boys, 50 for girls and 25 co-educational (including two infants schools). There were 30,080 pupils on the roll—15,357 boys and 14,723 girls, with an average attendance of 22,127—10,992 boys and 11,135 girls. The school-leaving age is 14 years. There is a nutrition scheme which provides a daily snack of milk and biscuits for each child. Some medical, dental and optical treatment is also available to pupils.

During 1950–51 considerable progress was made in the effort to provide more room by the completion of the two new modern schools at St. Leonard's. These schools will provide accommodation for approximately 1,500 children.

The local control of elementary schools is in the hands of Boards of Managers appointed annually by the Director of Education to advise on local school problems and assist in the selection of staffs. The Teaching Establishment consists of 124 head teachers and 677 assistant teachers.

Secondary Schools

There are 11 Government-aided secondary schools—three first-grade and eight second-grade. The three first-grade schools with an attendance of 1,231 (870 boys and 361 girls) are Harrison College (boys), Queen's College (girls), both day schools situated in the Bridgetown area, and the Lodge School in the parish of St. John, a day school for boys which also has a boarding establishment. These schools prepare candidates for the Certificate Examinations of the Oxford and Cambridge Board at scholarship, advanced and ordinary levels.

The other eight schools—four for boys, three for girls, and one co-educational are in St. Michael, St. Peter, St. Lucy, St. Andrew and Christ Church. They had an attendance of 1,607 pupils (1,001 boys

and 606 girls), and prepare candidates for the ordinary level certificates of the Oxford and Cambridge Board and the University of London.

The newly built amalgamated Coleridge and Parry School in the parish of St. Peter was ready to open in 1952 to take the place of the two—Coleridge and Parry—Schools. It will be a day school for 390 boys. Its curriculum will include teaching in general arts and science subjects. Facilities have been provided for the teaching of agricultural science.

Secondary schools are managed by Governing Bodies who function under Schemes formulated by the Director of Education and approved by the Legislature.

Private Schools

In addition to the public elementary and Government-aided secondary schools there are several private schools for both boys and girls, some of which have been approved by the Director of Education. At present 12 private schools have agreed to inspection by Government.

The private schools prepare candidates for the General Certificate Examinations of the Oxford and Cambridge Board, the Cambridge School Certificate and the London Chamber of Commerce Certificate Examinations.

The Codrington High School for girls in the parish of St. John and the Ursuline Convent in St. Michael are both day and boarding schools.

Exhibitions and Scholarships

Exhibitions are provided for boys and girls to secondary schools from Government and Vestry funds.

The Government Scholarships and Exhibitions Act, which was passed in 1949, provides annually for five Barbados Scholarships, two Exhibitions tenable at the University College of the West Indies, and two Island Scholarships tenable at Codrington College.

Four of the Barbados Scholarships are for boys and girls, and one is reserved for a girl. Winners are required to attain a standard equal to that prescribed by the Colleges of Oxford and Cambridge for the award of their open scholarships. The value of each scholarship is \$1,920 per annum over a period of three to six years. In addition a sum of \$576 is granted to each scholarship holder to assist with travelling and other initial expenses. Barbados Scholarships are awarded on the results of the Scholarship examinations of the Oxford and Cambridge Schools Examination Board.

The University College of the West Indies Exhibitions, each of the value of \$1,080 per annum are awarded on the results of the entrance examination prescribed by the Senate of the University College. An additional grant of \$144 is payable to each exhibitor to meet the cost of matriculation and other fees.

Two Island Scholarships, each of the value of \$480 per annum are awarded on the results of an examination set by the authorities of Codrington College in consultation with the Director of Education.

By the provisions of the Education Act the Director of Education controls the award and tenure of Scholarships and Exhibitions.

Training of Teachers

Erdiston Training College, situated at Pine Hill, overlooking Bridgetown, was officially opened in 1948. By the end of the academic session in 1951, 94 primary school teachers and seven non-graduate secondary school teachers had gained certificates of training.

The students of Erdiston College, who are required to have had experience of teaching and to have attained matriculation and school certificate standard, receive a course of training in modern educational methods. The staff consists of the Principal, Vice-Principal, Woman Tutor, Lecturer in Agriculture and part-time lecturers for special subjects such as physical training, art, handicrafts and visual education.

Residential accommodation is provided for 16 men and 16 women students who are selected for each session by the Director of Education. In addition four day-students from the staffs of aided secondary schools may be admitted annually to the training courses.

Additional training for teachers is provided during the Easter vacation when the Director organises classes in academic and practical subjects, school administration, intelligence testing and domestic science. During school terms there are regular Saturday classes in art and physical training.

Teachers' Examinations

In addition to the certificate of training awarded to successful students of Erdiston College, there are two qualifying examinations for non-graduate teachers in elementary and secondary schools :

- (i) *Certificate B* is based upon a syllabus of academic subjects at school certificate standard together with school method and the principles of education.
- (ii) *Certificate A* is awarded on the results of research work performed by teachers in connection with their school duties. The practical work involved is inspected by officers of the Education Department who also examine the theses submitted by candidates at the conclusion of their projects.

Adult Education

The Barbados Evening Institute. The Department of Education organised the Barbados Evening Institute during 1948. Its aims were to co-ordinate existing centres of evening adult education of a practical character which had applied for Government assistance ; to organise new centres when possible, and to pay for approved lectures from Government funds ; to supply equipment where necessary, and, so far as any centre required it, to help with the programme of work.

The Institute also undertook to start evening classes in Bridgetown

under its direct control in academic, commercial and technical subjects.

In 1950 and 1951 the Institute conducted a two-year course of evening classes leading to the University of London Intermediate B.A. Matriculation classes which had been started in 1948-49 were replaced by a two-year course preparing candidates for the General Certificate of Education at ordinary and advanced levels.

Commercial classes were held in shorthand and typewriting, book-keeping and English. Technical classes in internal combustion engineering and electricity, and classes for greasers and firemen were also held in Bridgetown.

At six country centres evening classes were held in shorthand, typewriting, elementary mathematics, English, Latin, Spanish, domestic science, electricity, needlecraft and general elementary subjects. Typewriters were supplied by the Institute to three centres.

The Institute also organised discussion groups and literacy classes in co-operation with voluntary agencies.

During the academic year 1950-51 the Institute controlled 14 centres which held a total of 2,547 classes for 1,504 students. Eighty-six tutors were employed by the Institute during the year.

University College Extra-mural Department. The Resident Tutor of the University College of the West Indies arrived in Barbados in September, 1949. During 1950 and 1951 several courses of lectures have been organised by the Extra-Mural Department in co-operation with various societies and groups.

In addition to courses and single lectures organised at centres in Bridgetown and in rural parishes the programme has included two courses of lectures in public administration for civil servants and parochial officers, and two summer schools at Codrington College. The syllabus of the summer schools included lectures on certain aspects of West Indian life—history, art, literature, economics, and constitutional development.

The British Council. The British Council has continued its adult educational activities by providing programmes in music, art and drama ; by sponsoring exhibitions and lectures and by supplying feature articles, book reviews and articles by Council staff to the Barbados press. Film-shows to regular weekly audiences at the Council Headquarters and to various groups throughout the Island continue to attract public interest. The Council subsidises further educational work through such local bodies as the Association of Cultural Societies, the Barbados Museum and Historical Society and the Barbados Arts and Crafts Society.

Visual Education

The Department of Education directs training in the use and maintenance of visual aids at Erdiston College. During the Easter vacation special courses are organised for teachers at elementary and secondary schools.

The film-strip is widely used in elementary schools by travelling

Visual Aids Unit. During 1951 the use of portable translucent screens was introduced to facilitate daytime screening. The Department maintains 12 film-strip projectors.

There has been steady increase in film-strip production. The film-strips, "Nutrition Schemes in the Public Elementary Schools" and "Pottery in Barbados" are in circulation. "Cotton" is near completion. Other strips on "Sugar", "Fishing", "Agriculture and Farming" are being prepared. A large number of still photographs on aspects of Barbadian life have been added to the Visual Aids Library which has supplied material to schools, Government departments and the Colonial Office.

In 1951 the Unit produced a 16 mm. film "GIVE YOUR CHILD A CHANCE" for the Department of Medical Services. This film was a result of the West Indian Film Training Scheme sponsored by the Colonial Film Unit and partly financed by Colonial Development and Welfare funds. The film is being shown by the mobile cinema.

During 1950-51 the mobile cinema gave 158 performances for audiences which totalled about 98,500. The unit travelled 3,421 miles, visiting plantations in the rural areas, almshouses and Government institutions, Evening Institute centres, Government farms and schools.

The programmes were improved by the inclusion of additional films of local and West Indian character. "Barbados—Sugar Isle" and "Caribbean" were particularly popular. Newsreels, health films, educational and general films supplied in part by the Central Office of Information, the Medical Department and the British Council provided varied programmes.

Technical and Vocational Training

Technical and vocational training is provided in Barbados by a number of agencies which are either controlled or aided by Government departments.

The Board of Industrial Training, the chairman of which is the Colonial Engineer, awards bursaries to young men so that they may be trained in various trades. In 1951 the Board recommended to Government that the number of annual bursaries be increased from 24 to 48. Government approved the recommendation and the Apprenticeship Bursaries Act, 1928, was accordingly amended.

Apprentices are generally drawn from the handicraft classes attached to elementary schools. They are put under master workmen who give them a five-year course and present them for examination at the end of each year.

During 1950-51 there were 113 apprentices in training and certificates of competency were issued to apprentices who had completed their courses in carpentry, plumbing, cabinet-making, printing, engineering, motor machine repairing, and tailoring.

The Department of Science and Agriculture trains its own Peasant Agricultural Instructors and the Department of Medical Services undertakes training of nurses, sanitary inspectors, and public health officers.

The Housecraft Centre, under the direction of the Director of Education, continues the training of school leavers and adults in various branches of housecraft. The Centre organises domestic science teaching for the island. Classes are also provided for teachers in training at Erdiston College who attend classes in cookery, laundry work, housewifery and needlecraft. In September, 1951, an intensive six-months course of training in homecraft was commenced for teachers in service.

During 1951, 1,058 women-students were trained at the Housecraft Centre in cooking, butlering, cake and pastry-making, needlecraft, home nursing and other branches of homecraft.

Cooking classes and general housewifery are conducted in most of the girls' schools and a number of the schools have moderately well-equipped kitchens in which senior girls are given three-year courses in general domestic science under the supervision of teachers trained at the Housecraft Centre.

The Barbados Evening Institute offers classes in commercial and certain technical subjects. In 1950-51 classes in internal combustion engineering and in electricity were conducted in co-operation with the Department of Highways and Transport. Classes for greasers and firemen were also arranged in co-operation with the Labour Commissioner.

The general development of technical and vocational training has been under review by Government. In November, 1951, a Committee was appointed under the chairmanship of the Director of Education to reconsider the proposals of the Select Committee which reported in 1949 and to make recommendations for a more advanced form of technical and vocational education.

University Education

Codrington College, founded in 1710, under the will of General Sir Christopher Codrington, who was born in Barbados, is administered by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel. In 1875, Codrington College was affiliated to Durham University. There are several theological scholarships provided by the funds of the College. Two Island Scholarships of the value of \$480 per annum tenable at Codrington College are awarded annually.

Codrington now functions mainly as a theological college but accepts lay students to read for the classical degree of Durham. In 1950-51 there were 28 students in residence. Students also go abroad for their higher education. Eighty-six were attending universities and other institutions in the United Kingdom on 1st January, 1952 ; and 11 student were at the University College of the West Indies during 1950-51.

Cultural Activities

The British Council. The British Council first sent a representative to Barbados in 1945 and since then had continued to promote interest in cultural activities in the Island. A number of exhibitions, including



**TRAFALGAR SQUARE WITH ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDINGS
(PUBLIC BUILDINGS) IN THE BACKGROUND**



CONTOUR CULTIVATION

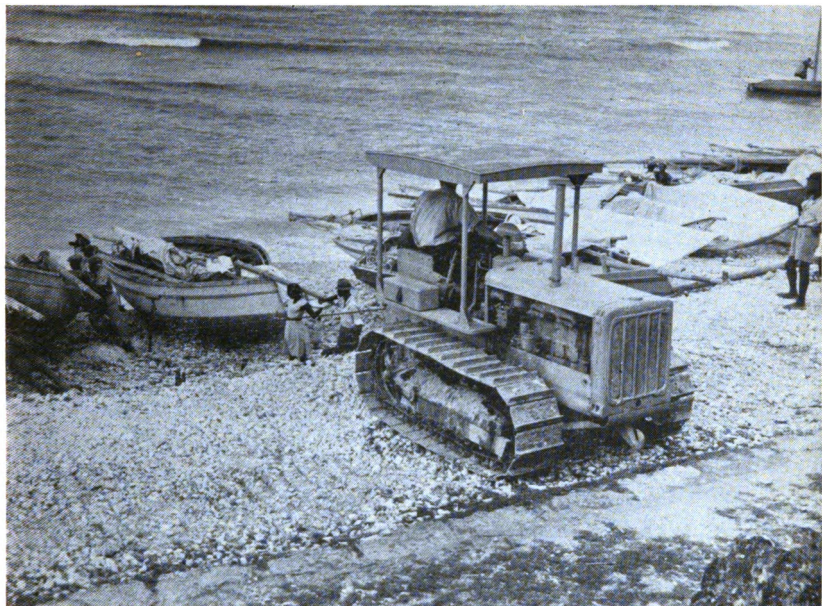
A popular feature in soil tillage on the estates, among peasant holdings, and in school gardens



APPLYING FERTILISERS TO YOUNG CANE SHOOTS ON
THE SUGAR PLANTATIONS



LIGHTERS WITH SUGAR ON THEIR WAY TO THE SHIPS



HAULING UP BOATS, BY TRACTORS, BATHSHEBA,
TENT BAY



BARBADOS BLACK-BELLIED EWE. AGE: 6 YRS.
WEIGHT: 122 LBS.



**"FARMERS' DAY". AGRICULTURAL INSPECTORS
GIVE PRACTICAL INSTRUCTIONS TO PEASANTS ON
ANIMAL HUSBANDRY**



**AIRCRAFT ON THE PARKING APRON AT SEAWELL
AIRPORT**

displays of photographs were held, which were well attended. In addition, the British Council did much in providing periodicals to schools and societies and in supplying books for the libraries of secondary schools and in collecting reference books on social and technical subjects.

A 16-mm. film projector was used to show documentary films on the British way of life and educational films of scientific interest to schools and the general public. Films were also loaned to the Government mobile cinema van. A close co-operation was maintained with the Museum and an epidiascope provided for use in schools. Pictures were also lent to schools and the Public Library, and these were changed periodically.

A library of music has been built up and scores are lent to choirs and musical societies, as are selections from the library of gramophone records.

During the period under review the British Council arranged lecture tours for a number of distinguished visitors. The subjects of these lectures were drama, juvenile delinquency, social economics, and the British educational system.

Scholarships to finance courses of training were also given in physical training, music and probation work.

The Museum and Historical Society. The Barbados Museum and Historical Society was incorporated by a special Act of the Legislative in 1933. The Government gave the society a lease for 90 years, of the old abandoned Military Prison. The Museum is one of the best in the West Indies. The work began in 1933 with the aid of a grant of £1,500 from the Carnegie Corporation of New York and smaller grants from the Barbados Government. About £5,000 has been spent on buildings to house the collections of books, pictures, models, specimens of birds and fishes. There is also an excellent collection of pottery, axe heads, etc. derived from the original Arawaks of the Island and a fine collection of Carib stone implements. A great deal of interesting material of this kind still lies buried in those districts which were inhabited by the Arawak Indians. The Children's Museum, a recent development, continued to be a great attraction and special visits for school children were arranged. The Society publishes a quarterly journal which is now in its fifteenth volume.

The services of a full-time curator were obtained in 1949 and during the years under review lectures and exhibitions on various subjects have been held almost every month. An important collection of Barbadian pre-historic Arawak remains, the Taylor Collection, was acquired during 1951 and some excavations were carried out under the auspices of the Society at a kitchen midden of an Arawak fishing village.

Public Library. There is a free Public Library in Bridgetown which dates its foundation from the passing of the first Public Library Act on 21st October, 1847. The building in which the Library is at present housed was given by Mr. Andrew Carnegie in 1904.

The expenses of the Library which amounted in 1950-51 to \$28,295 are met from public funds. Large gifts of books are made to the Library by the British Council. Small gifts are also received from private sources.

The Library service is extended to the more remote parts of the Island by the establishment of seven Deposit Stations. There is also a Branch Library in Speightstown which serves the northern districts of the Island. In October, 1949, a trial scheme for the loan of books to elementary schools was started, and at 31st March, 1951, 29 such schools were loaned books on a termly basis.

At 31st March, 1951, 16,037 borrowers were on the register and the stock of books stood at approximately 46,000. From 1st April, 1950, to 31st March, 1951, book circulations amounted to 270,798 of which 76,136 were issues to juvenile readers. During the same period the expenditure of the Library per head of the population, based on the 1946 census figures, amounted to 14.6 cents.

Association of Cultural Societies. An Association of Cultural Societies was formed towards the end of 1947 and a number of societies, with various interests, have become affiliated members. The association assists all cultural societies and clubs, particularly by sponsoring lectures, exhibitions and musical evenings.

HEALTH

The health of the Colony was fairly satisfactory throughout the period when considered in relation to preceding years. There were no epidemics of any serious disease. The chief causes of death were the diseases of early infancy, diseases of the circulatory system and infective and parasitic diseases.

Medical aid was rendered to the poor and destitute by 13 part-time Parochial Medical Officers, appointed and paid by the 11 Vestries of the Colony.

The Barbados General Hospital operates as a Department of Government under the provisions of the Barbados General Hospital Act, 1947 (No. 28 of 1947). The staff comprises :

Whole-time : One Medical Superintendent, one surgeon specialist, one radiologist, one anaesthetist and six medical officers.

Part-time : Three visiting surgeons, two assistant visiting surgeons, one ophthalmic, ear, nose and throat surgeon, one assistant ophthalmic, ear, nose and throat surgeon, one medical officer, Venereal Diseases Clinic, one assistant medical officer, Venereal Diseases Clinic, one out-patient medical officer, one dental surgeon.

Nursing : One matron, one assistant matron, one sister tutor and five nursing sisters.

The re-organisation of the surgical work of the Hospital under the supervision of the Surgeon Specialist has improved services to the public.

Good conditions prevailed during the year for the growing of provisions. Price control and subsidisation of flour continued and an adequate supply was kept up. These factors helped to maintain the nutritional level of the general population.

The Department of Medical Services Act (No. 14 of 1947) and the Quarantine Act (No. 38 of 1947) were proclaimed during the year.

Communicable Diseases

Enteric Fever : Fifty-three cases were notified in 1951 compared with 37 in 1950 and 69 in 1949. The issue of model latrines continued during the year. Contacts of cases were immunised.

Tuberculosis : Seventy-seven cases were notified in 1951 compared with 78 in 1950 and 93 in 1949. The problem of control remains difficult, but it is hoped that modern public health practices based on the health centre services soon to be instituted will effect a real improvement.

Dysentery : One case was notified in 1950 compared with 21 in 1949. No differentiation as to the type of dysentery is made, but amoebic dysentery is less common than bacillary.

Diphtheria : Eighteen cases were notified in 1951 compared with 23 in 1950 and 14 in 1949. Diphtheria toxoid is supplied free to medical practitioners. When health centres are established it is hoped to extend the immunisation campaign to school children.

Cerebrospinal Meningitis : Two cases were notified in 1950 compared with six in 1949.

Leprosy : No cases were notified during 1950 and 1951. The use of sulphetrone continues with encouraging results.

Poliomyelitis : No cases were notified during 1950 and 1951.

Venereal Diseases : The principal venereal diseases were syphilis and gonorrhoea. These diseases are not notifiable and exact figures cannot be given.

Institutions

The Barbados General Hospital. The accommodation at the Hospital is insufficient and the question of enlarging and improving the present hospital is under consideration.

The Mental Hospital. There are 35 dormitories holding 380 beds and 391 single rooms for the accommodation of patients. At the end of 1951 there were 702 patients in residence, 286 males and 416 females.

The Leper Hospital. The treatment of patients with sulphetrone continued during the year. Marked improvement is noted in many lepromatous cases both from the bacteriological and physical stand-points and the improved mental outlook of the patients is a cause for genuine satisfaction. At the end of 1951 there were 34 inmates; three patients were discharged as cured.

The Prison Hospital. This hospital is in charge of a visiting physician. There is accommodation for men and women.

The Government Industrial Schools. The health of the children continued satisfactory during the year. The medical work of these institutions is carried out by a part-time visiting physician.

The Maternity Hospital. The main work of this hospital is to train midwives. It has accommodation for 20 expectant mothers. During 1951 there were 420 deliveries. Ante-natal and post-natal clinics continued to be well attended. A new service of dental care was instituted. Under the direct control of the Director of Medical Services, the hospital is supervised by a matron and visiting obstetrician, who are responsible for the conduct and training of the pupils.

Parochial Almshouses

There are 11 parochial almshouses, one in each parish, for the care of the destitute sick and for the housing of the aged and poor. The administrative duties are in the hands of the Churchwardens and Boards of Guardians who execute their responsibilities with care and interest. The buildings are well maintained.

Hygiene and Sanitation

The administration of hygiene and sanitation is in the hands of the 11 separate and independent parochial Boards of Commissioners of Health. Though expert advice is not available within these bodies, there is a welcome tendency, more than in the past, for them to seek advice from Departmental experts. Modern public health legislation, setting out the responsibility of Central and Local Government, would aid towards real and uniform progress which is now lacking.

Pupils in elementary schools continue to receive instruction in hygiene and sanitation.

There is no organised school medical service. Free dental and optical services were provided during the year.

Training of Health Staff

During 1951 four sanitary inspectors completed their training in Jamaica, and 38 inspectors were trained locally.

HOUSING

The Housing Board operates under the provisions of the Bridgetown Housing Act, 1936-8.

One hundred and twenty-six houses were removed from congested areas in Bridgetown and placed at the Government-owned Bay Estate. Ninety-four new houses built of local stone were completed at this Estate and at Pine Estate which were rented to selected tenants from the lower income groups. Public utilities were provided. The cost of new housing continues to remain too high.

SOCIAL WELFARE

The social services provided by the Government are education, medical services, old age pensions, grants in aid to Churches and

voluntary societies, housing, subsidisation of foodstuffs and emigration. The Budget for 1950-51 provided for an expenditure of 53.3 per cent (\$3,587,827) of the Island's income on these services. The purely welfare aspects are administered in the main as ancillary activities of the particular Department concerned, leaving the Social Welfare Office to carry out duties not specifically allocated elsewhere. Thus the Department of Education is responsible for providing milk and biscuits to elementary schools, the Departments of Education and Medical Services are jointly responsible for dental and eye treatment for school children, and the Director of Medical Services for relief of the poor and destitute.

Maternity and Infant Care

The infant mortality rate for 1950 was 125 deaths per 1,000 live births, and the maternal mortality 3.27 per cent.

Government provides one midwifery training centre with accommodation for 20 mothers and an ante and post-natal clinic. In addition there are seven Baby Welfare Clinics and one day creche run by voluntary committees. These committees are nearly all grant-aided from Government and local authority funds. They distribute milk and cod liver oil to necessitous cases, give advice to mothers and arrange for children to go to the doctor when necessary.

Destitute children are taken in as inmates into the almshouses. In the largest parish, St. Michael, a children's home (the Nightengale Memorial Home) has been running since 1947 ; it houses some 35 children who are under the care of a matron trained in England. The one children's creche, run by the Children's Goodwill League, operates a scheme for training young women as nursery nurses. In addition, when funds are available, hot meals are provided by the League for necessitous children from the elementary schools.

There is an Act for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children. Young people under the age of 14 may not be employed in industrial undertakings. Education up to the age of 14 is free but not compulsory. Elementary school children receive free milk and biscuits daily as does any child of pre-school age which accompanies its brother or sister to school.

Youth Organisations

There are a number of groups and social clubs for young people particularly in the Bridgetown area. These however, apart from the chief cricketing organisation, are not well established as members change from one club to another fairly easily, and existing clubs disappear while new ones form. The difficulty is not in starting clubs but in keeping them going. Cricket is the exception : it is well organised and island-wide. Other more prominent organisations for young people are the Boy Scouts ; Girl Guides ; the Y.M.C.A. ; the Y.W.C.A. ; the Girls' Industrial Union ; Young Men's Progressive Club ; the Riverside Club and the Weymouth Club. There are also

a number of groups attached to the religious bodies : the Church Lads' Brigade and the Church Girls' Brigade of the Anglican Church, the Wesleyan Club and the Girls' Guild of the Wesleyan Club, etc.

A new development has been the Old Scholars' Associations attached to the elementary schools, there were 34 groups in 1950 with about 1,350 members. The Associations, as in the case of all other groups, suffer from a lack of leaders. During the year therefore two training sessions were held, one each in St. Philip and St. Andrew.

Community Welfare

Outside Bridgetown community and group development has suffered from a lack of meeting places. In the country the only places available were churches or schools and it was not always possible to place these at the disposal of outside groups. To overcome this difficulty \$300,000 of the Labour Welfare Fund was allocated to provide community halls and playing fields. During 1950 the Princess Alice Playing Field (St. Michael's) and the Belleplaine Community Centre in St. Andrew were officially opened. Plans for centres in other parochial areas were also made, e.g. St. Joseph, St. Philip and St. George.

Women in the Community

In Barbados women are numerically superior, politically equal and economically inferior to men. They are usually paid lower wages than men. For historic reasons, women in the past, while accepting a large share of the responsibility for the family, have not played a large part in public life. This has been slowly altering since the war and in 1951 there was a woman member of the Legislative Council, of the House of Assembly and of two Vestries, and there were seven women Justices of the Peace. In addition women have started to practise as doctors, lawyers, and dentists.

Mutual Aid Societies

There were during 1950, 140 friendly societies with a membership of approximately 94,900, but many persons belong to more than one group. The dependants of these members number about 211,700. Contributions average some \$654,500 annually. These societies provide relief in sickness, assistance in the payment of funeral expenses and a Christmas bonus to fully paid up members.

Relief of the Destitute and Disabled

Old Age Pensions. The first Old Age Pension Act came into operation on 1st May, 1938. By various amending Acts a number of provisions has been altered and the qualifying age has now been reduced to 68 years with pensions for the blind at 40. The amount granted and the means test have been increased to \$1.75 and \$1.20 per

week respectively. During 1951 about \$465,000 was paid in old age pensions to 750 persons. Administrative expenses totalled about \$10,000.

Parochial Poor Relief. The care and maintenance of the infirm, aged and destitute poor is a duty of the Vestry of the parish in which such persons are domiciled. The Poor Relief Act, 1892 laid down the duties which Vestries must fulfil, but each Vestry has very wide discretion in the manner of carrying them out. Regular inspections of the parochial poor relief organisations, including institutions, are made at least twice a year by the Chief Medical Officer, who reports when necessary to the Governor, the Poor Law Board, and/or the Poor Law Guardians, the last-named being the appointees of the Vestry, who are charged with these duties.

The total number of persons who received parochial poor relief for the year ending 24th March, 1950, was 19,478 at a cost of \$598,320. An almshouse (which for practical purposes is equivalent to a cottage hospital as well as a shelter for the destitute) is maintained in each Parish of the island. The number of persons admitted for relief in the almshouses was 3,755 on account of destitution, and 2,890 for indoor medical relief.

The Barbados Association in Aid of the Blind and Deaf

This Association, founded in 1943, is at present concentrating on the training of the deaf and dumb in the school-age group. During the year five deaf and dumb children were sent to a special school in Trinidad. The children are supported partly by Vestry and Government grants, partly by the Association and by their families or people interested in their welfare.

In May, 1951, a blind Barbadian who was trained as a teacher in Trinidad returned to the island and preliminary arrangements were made for opening a Centre where his services could be utilised for the benefit of other blind people. The Association is supported partly by Government grants and partly by voluntary contributions. The Social Welfare Officer is the honorary secretary.

Barbados Nurses Association

There are no organised Government-sponsored nursing services for sick people in their homes ; but this Society gives nursing aid to sick people in the St. Michael's area. It is grant-aided from public funds, but raises some of its money by voluntary contributions.

Other Institutions

The Salvation Army has a number of thriving corps in the island and undertakes both evangelical and welfare activities. At the Headquarters, Bridgetown, a night shelter for men is provided.

Seamen's Welfare is catered for by the Royal and Merchant Naval Welfare League and the Port Welfare Committee.

Voluntary Society Institutions. The following institutions are supported by private donations and subscriptions :

Ladies' Association for the Relief of the Indigent Sick and Infirm.
 The Goodridge Home for Distressed Gentlemen.
 The Bessie Yearwood Home for Orphans.
 The Haynes Memorial School (formerly the Daily Meal School).
 The Almair Home for Elderly Gentlewomen.
 The Home for Elderly Gentlemen.
 St. Lawrence Baby Welfare Clinic.

The following are supported by funds from various religious organisations :

St. Mary's Home for Elderly Women	} Maintained by the Church of England.
St. Paul's Home for Elderly Women	
St. Matthias Poor House	
St. Vincent De Paul Society	} Supported by Roman Catholic Church Funds.
St. Patrick's Poor School	

Juvenile Delinquency

The incidence of juvenile delinquency in Barbados is low in comparison with countries in Europe and the Americas, and the offences reported are seldom serious.

The Juvenile Court has jurisdiction over children of 7 to 16 years, 327 children and young persons, 177 of whom were found guilty, appeared before courts of this type during 1950. The population in this age-group is 39,993 (1946 census).

Offences fall into three categories :

Those against property : 108 (including 86 larcenies and 7 house breakings).

Those against the person : 145 (including 82 minor assault and beat cases).

Miscellaneous charges : 74 (breaches of Highways Act, etc.).

Breaking and entering cases as a rule involve the theft of food and portable property of low value, and a high percentage of the other larcenies comprise the theft of sugar-cane, coconuts and growing fruit.

The assault and beat cases usually arise from childish quarrels that are made worse by improper handling on the part of parents. A new rule, however, made under the Juvenile Offenders Act in 1949, gives the probation officers the opportunity of learning about incidents among juveniles as soon as they occur, and this has meant a considerable reduction in the number of trivial offences which reach the Courts.

The Juvenile Courts are limited in their choice of treatment of juveniles, but in accordance with modern practice, due regard is given to the welfare of the offender. Those juveniles found guilty in 1950 were dealt with as follows :

Reprimanded and discharged	84
Placed on probation	71
Fined	1
Committed to Government Industrial School	21

No juveniles were whipped during the year.

Juvenile Courts are held in each Police District, wherever possible in rooms separate from the adult courtrooms. A probation officer is always present to submit background reports, and to advise on the treatment of the offender.

Probation

This form of treatment is used by the Courts for juveniles and adults of both sexes, and during 1950 probationers dealt with numbered 342 (154 men, 25 women, 116 boys, and 47 girls). The number of new cases added during the year was 133 (51 men, 11 women, 57 boys and 14 girls). Response to supervision is usually high.

The Probation Service became a unit of the established Civil Service, with effect from September, 1951. It is staffed by four officers (three men and one woman), and a stenographer-typist. The male officer in charge of the Service has completed a nine-months course of training with the Home Office in the United Kingdom.

In addition to their supervisory duties officers assist the Court by making pre-trial and other investigations. Case-history reports are submitted which help the magistrates when deciding case treatment and the officers' help and advice is widely sought in unravelling matrimonial tangles and in settling other family disputes. By legislation which took effect during the year, the officers prepare and submit means enquiry reports in bastardy and alimony applications before the courts.

The courts find the probation system valuable in administering justice, and the steady growth of the service is a mark of its usefulness to the community.

Chapter 8 : Legislation

During the two years 1950 and 1951, 57 and 66 Acts were passed by the Legislature. Of these in 1950, 24 were Acts amending existing legislation, 17 were Acts connected with loans and other matters of the various Vestries and private Bills and two referred to pensions for individuals. In 1951, there were 30 amending Acts, 9 Vestry and private Bills and three referring to individual pensions Acts.

In the early part of 1950, the important and highly controversial Petroleum Act was passed which vested the property of petroleum in its natural condition in the strata within the Island in the Governor-in-Executive Committee. The Act also provided that no person could prospect or extract petroleum except under licence issued by the Executive Committee. The Act also made provision for the payment of compensation and royalties and for the setting up of an Ancillary Rights Commission to determine applications from licensees for ancillary rights to facilitate the search and extraction of petroleum.

The Natural Gas Corporation Act, which was passed later in the year, was complementary to the Petroleum Act. The Act was passed

after the failure of the negotiations between the Government and the British Union Oil Company for that company to continue the winning and distribution of natural gas from the well at Turner's Hall. The Act not only set up a Corporation to win and distribute natural gas, but provided for compulsory acquisition of existing pipe lines and equipment. The amount of compensation is to be agreed or settled by arbitration.

The Trade Union (Amendment) Act aimed at bringing the trade union laws of the Island in line with those of the United Kingdom subsequent to the passing of the United Kingdom Trade Disputes and Trade Unions Act, 1946. In addition to more precise definitions and methods of registration of trade unions, the Act made provision for "contracting out" and "peaceful picketing" with safeguards.

The Abolition of Grand Juries Act, was another Act that followed the precedent of United Kingdom legislation, namely the Administration of Justice (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1933. The abolition of the Grand Jury has led to a simplification of procedure in indictable offences though some may regret the break with the traditions of the past.

The most important constitutional Act, referred to in Part I of this Report, was the Representation of the People Act, 1950, which introduced adult suffrage, abolished the property qualifications for membership of the General Assembly and reduced the quorum of the House of Assembly from 12 to 9. Since the principal Act, the Representation of the People Act, 1901, contained provisions that governed the property qualifications of electors for the Vestries and the qualifications for liability for jury service, the granting of adult suffrage by this Act meant that the Vestries (Qualification and Registration of Voters) Act and the Jurors (Amendment) Act had to be enacted in order to preserve these qualifications. The Act also meant that the number of persons entitled to vote increased considerably and special machinery had to be set up by law for registering voters and for the conduct of elections.

In 1951, much labour legislation was enacted (see Part II, Chapter 2 of this Report). The most important changes were amendments to the Factory Act designed to give better protection for workers and the Accidents and Occupational Diseases (Notification) Act which required the notification of accidents and occupational diseases to the Labour Department to help to prevent recurrence and to show where the greatest risks to the workers exist. The Holidays with Pay Act made it compulsory for every employer to grant his employees annually a fortnight's holiday on full pay, though, in fact the majority of employers already granted this and in some cases already gave more than a fortnight's holiday.

The Quarries Act was passed to replace the Marl Holes Act which has proved inadequate for protecting workers in quarries. The Act provides for the registration and supervision of all quarries.

The law relating to the treatment of mentally diseased and mentally deficient persons was completely overhauled by the Mental Health Act,

so as to bring it into line with the latest modern developments. One of the new features contained in the Act was the provision that permitted patients voluntarily to submit themselves for treatment as mental patients and for temporary treatment at the Mental Hospital without certification so that the stigma of the lunatic asylum can be avoided in cases in which the disease is not lasting.

The Commissions of Enquiry Act, 1908, was amended to permit an enquiry being held into any matter in which an enquiry should be held in the public interest, in which the conduct of an officer, management or body of any parochial or local Government or public or local institution entrusted with public funds could be questioned.

The Public Service Commission Act authorised the setting up of a Public Service Commission to advise the Governor in the selection and appointment of candidates in the Island to posts in the public service. The object of the Commission is to provide the Governor with advice on the selection and appointment of candidates and to advise on interdepartmental transfers, discipline, control, retirement and conditions of service.

Late in 1951 the Sugar Producers' Federation and the Barbados Workers' Union came to an agreement, and ratification of certain clauses of this agreement was provided by the Sugar Industry (Rehabilitation, Price Stabilisation and Labour Welfare) (Special Levy) Act to enable these statutory funds to be adjusted in accordance with the terms of the agreement.

Lastly, the Pioneer Industries (Encouragement) Act was passed to encourage the establishment of new industries in the Island by exempting all plant, machinery and imported materials required for its construction and equipment from customs duty and package tax. By the Pioneer Industries (Encouragement) (Amendment) Act, these privileges were extended to existing industries for alterations and extensions other than replacements. Industries must be declared pioneer industries by the Governor-in-Executive Committee.

Chapter 9 : Justice, Police and Prisons

JUSTICE

The Chief Justice of the Island is appointed by Her Majesty the Queen and presides over the Superior Courts, that is to say, the Courts of Chancery, Common Pleas, Ordinary, Divorce and Matrimonial Causes, Grand Sessions, Admiralty, Bankruptcy, Escheat and Error.

The Court of Error hears appeals from the Assistant Court of Appeal when that Court has exercised both original and appellate jurisdiction. However, appeals to the Court of Error from the Assistant Court of Appeal on a finding made in its appellate capacity is limited to points of law, though appeals from its original jurisdiction may be made on both points of law and points of fact.

Appeals lie from the Superior Courts mentioned above, except the Court of Grand Sessions, to the West Indian Court of Appeal. In the case of the Court of Grand Sessions the Chief Justice may in his own discretion reserve any question of law arising during the hearing of any matter before the Court of Grand Sessions for the consideration of the West Indian Court of Appeal. The right of appeal to Her Majesty in Council is preserved by section 14 of the West Indian Court of Appeal Act, 1920.

The Court of Grand Sessions sits three times a year in March, July and November. Before a person is brought before the Court for trial in a criminal charge a preliminary investigation is conducted by a Magistrate.

The Assistant Court of Appeal has original and appellate jurisdiction. Two judges sit together when the Court is in its appellate sessions, but only one judge sits when it is exercising its original jurisdiction. In its original jurisdiction the Court has powers to determine cases of debt in which the value of the claim exceeds \$96 but does not exceed \$240, and in all pleas of personal action where the claim is over \$48 but does not exceed \$240. The Court also possesses powers to deal with limited cases of equity and probate. In its appellate jurisdiction the Court hears appeals from the decisions of the Magistrates and from the Court of the Petty Debt Judge for Bridgetown.

The Magistrates preside over the District Police Courts, three hearing the criminal cases that arise in Bridgetown and four hearing those in the other districts of the Island. In Bridgetown there is, in addition to the Magistrates dealing with criminal cases, a Petty Debt Court Judge who presides over civil cases. The four District Magistrates outside Bridgetown deal with both criminal and civil cases. The Magistrates also deal with cases involving juvenile offenders and complaints against children and young persons are heard at special times and in different buildings from the main court and they are assisted by the Probation Officer, who was appointed in 1947.

Owing to the amount of work in the Superior Courts, an Act was passed to enable a temporary Puisne Judge to be appointed to help the Chief Justice for the November Grand Sessions in 1951.

Except for one case of murder, in which the crime was committed with an omnibus, there were no cases of unusual interest during the period.

POLICE

The establishment of the Police Force is one Commissioner, one Deputy Commissioner, six Superintendents, one Chief Inspector, seven inspectors, 17 station sergeants, 22 sergeants, 78 corporals, and 431 constables, including four policewomen who were first enrolled in 1950, and 37 writ servers.

The Island is divided into five Police Areas, each commanded by a Superintendent. There are 22 Police formations in all and these are connected with headquarters by telephone, 18 being connected to

the Police exchange. In addition progress is being made with the installation of VHF wireless, which is to replace the medium wave transmitters previously used.

There is a mounted troop consisting of 22 n.c.o.'s. and men, who are stationed at the six larger Police stations to patrol the sugar estates and rural areas. The horses are all imported from Canada and kept in excellent condition.

The Police band is considered to be one of the best in the West Indies and plays in Bridgetown and the country districts each week. The programmes are much enjoyed by the public.

Two Police dogs were introduced in 1950 ; they have proved valuable in the prevention and the detection of crime.

Fifteen Boys' clubs, with a membership of about 800 boys, have been opened by the Police in various parts of the Island. The boys are taught trades and useful occupations and recreational facilities are provided. A member of the Force attended a three month course in the United Kingdom in the management of boy's clubs. These clubs are under Police sponsorship but run on voluntary contributions.

The total number of criminal cases reported to the Police during 1950 and 1951 were 6,549 and 8,588 respectively, compared with 5,699 in 1949 and 5,798 in 1948. There were eight cases of murder in 1951 and five in 1950 compared with three in 1949 and seven in 1948.

There were 5,960 motor vehicles registered in the Island during 1951. The number of motor offences reported to the Police were 4,239 and of these 2,230 were prosecuted and 2,009 warned.

Cane fires to the number of 220 formed the subject of Police investigation in 1951 which was an increase of 28 over the number in 1950. The acreage of sugar cane damaged by fire was 1,452 compared with 838 in 1950.

PRISONS

There is one central prison, the Glendairy Prison, where male and female prisoners are housed in separate compounds. It has cell accommodation for 275 men and 125 women. The establishment consists of the Superintendent of the Prison, 50 male and 12 female prison officers.

Male prisoners are separated, as far as possible, into first offenders and recidivists and are classified for the purpose of vocational training. Female prisoners do the cooking and laundry for the whole prison.

First offenders are only employed on duties inside the prison and generally these duties are lighter and may involve vocational training under instructors in carpentry, tailoring, breadmaking, and other trades. Other offenders are employed in stonequarrying, stone-breaking, horticulture, farming (small stock) and the upkeep of Government lands outside the prison.

Offenders in the first division are permitted to get their food from outside at their own expense and may wear their own clothes, and are employed at light labour within the prison. Prisoners in the second division wear a distinctive dress. Unconvicted prisoners awaiting

trial may wear their own clothing and may procure their own food from outside, and are paid for any work they do.

A medical officer visits the prison daily and examines all new prisoners as well as attending to sick offenders. The general health of the prisoners during the period was good. The Church of England chaplain visits the prison three times a week and conducts a service on Sundays and festivals. He also supervises a library and school for the benefit of the prisoners. Well-conducted prisoners are allowed to study in the evenings in common rooms. During the year assistance with money, clothing and tools was given to discharged prisoners owing to the increased cost of living and unemployment.

The total number of persons imprisoned during 1951 was 224 compared with 208 in 1950. The daily average was 152 males and 7 females compared with 144 males and 7 females during 1950.

GOVERNMENT INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS

There are separate Government Industrial Schools for boys and girls under one superintendent. The daily average was 66 boys and 9 girls during 1951 compared with 71 boys and 10 girls in 1950.

About 75 per cent of the children are admitted as the result of cases of petty larceny. The minimum sentence is three years and the maximum five.

The standard of literacy ranged from Class I to Class VII among those on the roll in 1950, and about 25 per cent of the admissions were illiterate. Except in cases of pure feeble-mindedness most of the pupils make commendable progress in becoming literate and not a few show marked specific ability.

The curriculum is very like that in elementary schools with considerable emphasis on vocational training. Crafts include : carpentry, masonry, tailoring, shoemaking, horticulture, animal husbandry and handicraft for boys, and needlecraft, domestic science gardening and handicraft for girls.

Cricket and football are the main outdoor games and a variety of organised indoor games (including chess) are played.

All the children are examined periodically by the Medical Officer and by the visiting dentist. The diet scale, approved by the Director of Medical Services, is a liberal and balanced one, and it is very noticeable that pupils increase in weight and height during their stay.

Discipline is maintained chiefly by a system of rewards and privileges and by admonishments. Corporal punishment is administered only as a last resort and solitary confinement on punishment diet in very exceptional cases.

The records show that few of the pupils discharged from the schools lapse again into crime. Useful information on the activities and progress of the discharged pupils is obtained by the After Care Officer of the schools who makes occasional visits to the homes of such pupils. Efforts are made to secure jobs for some, and assistance by way of tools, loans and gifts, is given to others.

Chapter 10 : Public Utilities and Public Works

WATERWORKS

The Waterworks Department is responsible for the maintenance, extension and improvement of the water supply for domestic and industrial purposes over the Island. There are five pumping stations and approximately 675 miles of main pipes laid. Seven hundred and eighty-three standpipes distributed throughout the Island provide the inhabitants with a free supply of water. In addition, about 8,164 premises have water connections. Water is also supplied by barges to ships in Carlisle Bay.

The present pumping and distribution system is, in many ways, not up to modern demands and standards. It is being improved.

The quality of the water is, both bacteriologically and chemically, excellent and there are abundant subterranean supplies in the coral, which filters the water naturally.

ELECTRICITY

Electricity is supplied by a private company, the Barbados Electric Supply Corporation Limited, to private and public premises, and is used for street lighting in Bridgetown and part of Christ Church. Power is supplied to many of the sugar factories. The company operates under the Electric Light and Power (Provisional Orders Confirmation) Act, 1907. The whole island is not yet supplied, but under the terms of the Act the company has the right to extend its service to any area within 50 years from 1st August, 1936.

Electricity is generated at 3,300 volts and is supplied to the high-tension distribution network at 3,300 volts and 11,000 volts. Domestic and other low-tension supply is at 110 volts 50 cycles A.C., general power supply is at 208 volts two and three phase. The number of consumers at 31st December, 1951, was 8,233 as compared with 7,349 in 1949. A Government Electrical Inspector has been appointed under the Electricity Act, 1936. His duties are to inspect annually all Government installations and apparatus, to inspect new installations on public or private premises to see that they comply with the Electric Light and Power Act and that they meet the proper safety requirements, and to inspect the wiring from the Electric Company's mains to the consumers' meters. In addition, the Government Electrical Inspector has duties and powers under the Wireless Telegraphy Act, 1940.

GAS

A small Gas Company operates under the terms of the Gas Act, 1911, and supplies gas to private consumers in the Bridgetown and Hastings areas. In addition, some of the older parts of Bridgetown still use gas for street lighting.

The company uses "natural gas" relayed by way of the Belle Pumping Station from Turner's Hall to its works.

BROADCASTING

A wire broadcasting system, confined to Bridgetown and suburbs, is provided by a local company—Barbados Rediffusion Service Limited—with 5,188 subscribers. The company operates under an agreement with the Government in accordance with the provisions of the Wireless Telegraphy Act, 1940, and relays programmes received by wireless from abroad and also broadcasts news of local and West Indian interest.

The only direct reception in the Island is from the British Broadcasting Corporation's Overseas Services and foreign stations operating on short-wavelengths. There is no local wireless broadcasting service, but Government has a small transmitter which is used occasionally to transmit, locally and to neighbouring islands, programmes approved by the Governor-in-Executive Committee.

PUBLIC WORKS

The following major works were undertaken under the Capital Works programme in 1951-52 (expenditure given to 31st March, 1952) :

<i>Work</i>	<i>Expenditure</i> \$
St. Leonard's Girls' School	Building completed, furniture in hand
Parry & Coleridge School	Building completed, furniture provided from April, 1952, onwards. Laboratory, drains and gas installation not yet completed
St. Leonard's Boys' School	Building completed, furniture in hand
Welches Post Office	Completed
Health Centre, Speightstown	Completed
Mental Hospital—	
Additional accommodation, Male and Female Sides, and Matron's Quarters	} Building completed
Highways and Transport Overseers' Quarters	
Police Barracks, St. Cecilia	Building completed
Windows in Bay Street*	Completed
Seawell Airport Buildings	Not completed
	40 per cent completed

During 1950, the office of the Architect and Planning Officer was closed at the end of the contract of the architect. His work was taken over by the Public Works Department and the Housing Board.

* Refers to the conditioning of Government-owned land along a main highway bordering on the sea.

Chapter 11 : Communications

SHIPPING

From the United Kingdom and European Ports—The Harrison Line, Elder and Fyffes Line, Royal Netherlands Steamship Company, Compagnie Générale Transatlantique, run regular services to the Island. The Blue Star Line provide occasional services.

From Canada—The Canadian National Steamship, Alcoa Steamship Company Inc., Saguenay Terminals Ltd., and Moore McCormack.

From the United States of America—Alcoa Steamship Co. Inc., and Furness Withy & Co. Ltd.

From South America—The Booth Line and the Lamport and Holt Line call at irregular intervals and the Flotta Mercante del Estada operates a freight service from the Argentine.

From India and the Far East—Nourse Line visits periodically.

During 1951, 965 merchant vessels with a total net tonnage of 1,793,001 tons arrived at the port as compared with 1,024 vessels of 1,645,678 tons in 1950 and 999 vessels of 1,234,120 tons in 1949. In addition 36 other vessels visited Barbados in 1951 compared with 44 in 1950. There were six visits by cruise ships carrying 1,580 tourists to the port during 1950. Five hundred and ten vessels whose gross tonnage amounted to 63,583 tons entered the carenage in 1951 compared with 581 vessels of 70,552 tons in 1950 and 672 vessels of 73,680 tons in 1949 ; of these 440 were sailing vessels in 1951 and 432 in 1950.

The number of seamen engaged at the port during 1951 was 1,361 and 1,197 were discharged. The number of seamen engaged at the port to serve in foreign-going steamships was 943 of whom 449 were still serving afloat at the end of 1951.

AIR

The headquarters of the Directorate General of Civil Aviation for the British West Indies is at Barbados.

Barbados has one airfield at Seawell, about 12 miles from Bridgetown where a new runway was constructed from funds provided by Colonial Development and Welfare during the period under review. Considerable improvements have also been made to the terminal buildings and runway lighting has been installed.

The number of flights was 1,316 in 1950 and 1,283 in 1951 compared with 1,242 in 1949 and 1,141 in 1948. The main airlines operating schedule flights are the British West Indian Airways, Trans Canada Airlines and British Guiana Airways. Passengers arriving and departing were :

Year	Arrivals	Departures
1949 . . .	12,074	12,063
1950 . . .	13,606	13,348
1951 . . .	15,354	16,101

ROADS

The Department of Highways and Transport maintains the main highways and controls public transport and road traffic.

The roads over which the Director has authority are set out in a schedule to the Highways and Transport Act, 1945, to which new roads may be added by the Governor-in-Executive Committee. The upkeep of the remaining roads is still the responsibility of the vestry of the parish in which they lie. The island is approximately 166 square miles of land, all of which is either occupied or closely cultivated, and this small area is served by 608 miles of road open to traffic, of which 458 are oil-emulsion surfaced. These roads are mostly in good order and are fully capable of serving the exacting needs of the varied forms of transport common throughout Barbados.

In the main the Department of Highways and Transport controls and maintains the arterial highways radiating from Bridgetown and certain connecting roads, including all the roads in the parishes of St. Michael, St. Andrew and St. Lucy totalling 318 miles of which 304 are oil-emulsion surfaced.

The Department is also responsible for the maintenance of the runway of Seawell Airport.

As a result of the improved conditions of the roads and the absence of difficult gradients, except in the Scotland area, practically the whole Island is accessible to motor and other traffic. The number of private cars in use at the end of 1951 was 3,621 and in addition there were 2,025 commercial motor vehicles, 314 motor cycles, 21,515 pedal bicycles and a large number of animal drawn carts.

The city of Bridgetown and the suburbs are served by omnibuses running at frequent intervals and at moderate fares. Omnibuses have their termini in Bridgetown and run to the seaside districts, as well as to the more popular and residential inland parts of the Island. There is a daily service to the country districts. One hundred and sixty-two omnibuses operate on routes approved by the Director of Highways and Transport ; they are owned by 14 private owners with concessions to run services.

POSTS

The General Post Office is situated in Bridgetown. In addition there are 10 Parish Post Offices and three sub-offices, all of which transact full postal business. Delivery of all classes of mail, except parcel post, is made by postmen at the place of address ; deliveries are as follows : Daily, Monday to Friday, three in the city areas, two in suburban districts and one rural ; Saturday, two in the city and one in all other areas. There is no delivery of mail on Sunday.

The total revenue and expenditure of the Post Office over the past five years is given in the following table. The gross revenue for 1951 includes customs duties and package tax (\$247,779) and stamp duties

(\$53,952 in 1950). These amounts are subtracted so that the true postal revenue may be shown under net revenue.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Gross Revenue</i>	<i>Net Revenue</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>
	\$	\$	\$
1947 . .	497,851	331,373	251,069
1948 . .	462,590	314,592	270,154
1949 . .	579,608	391,057	298,166
1950 . .	791,233	552,937	345,472
1951 . .	702,015	400,284	339,835

There was a decrease in postal revenue compared with that for 1950 ; the latter was extraordinary and was due mainly to the introduction of pictorial stamps of all denominations, but the figure was still well above the average for the previous three years. There was also a decrease in expenditure owing mainly to a reduction in the amount spent for supplies of postage stamps of which there were appreciable reserve stocks after the introduction of the pictorial issue.

The following table shows the number of postal packets despatched and received by air and ocean mails during the years 1949 and 1950—

	<i>Despatched</i>		<i>Received</i>	
	1951	1950	1951	1950
Air Mail . .	930,817	847,975	650,050	549,404
Registered . .	30,509	28,332	66,049	56,246
	961,326	876,307	716,099	605,650
Ocean Mail . .	2,44738	247,873	369,021	416,386
Registered . .	7,937	7,532	10,232	10,648
	252,675	255,405	379,253	427,034
GRAND TOTAL	1,214,001	1,131,712	1,095,352	1,032,684

The number of inland postal packets circulated during 1951, compared with 2,271,108 in 1950, was 2,519,971 made up as follows :

Letters and Postcards . .	893,386
Official Letters . . .	236,223
Registered Letters . . .	30,991
	1,160,600
Book Packets and Newspapers .	1,359,371
	2,519,971

There was a decrease in the total number of parcels handled during

the year, although there was an increase in the value of inward parcels, mostly of a commercial character, as reflected in the increase in customs duties collected :

	1949	1950	1951
Parcels—In .	57,352	64,512	55,872
Parcels—Out .	43,223	58,826	35,064
	100,575	123,338	90,936

The number of local parcels circulated in 1951 was 234 as compared with 281 for 1949.

Again there was considerable money order and postal order business transacted ; the value of these orders is shown in the following table :

	1949	1950	1951
	\$	\$	\$
Money Orders and Postal Orders			
Issued and Paid	1,029,984	1,146,574	1,120,864

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

The Island is an important centre for cable and radio communication, being the junction point of several cables as well as the site of a large modern wireless installation of wide range, established by Cable and Wireless Limited.

External telecommunications services are operated by Cable and Wireless (West Indies), Limited. This company owns and operates cable connections with most of the other important West Indian islands and British Guiana, and through Turks Island and Bermuda to Halifax, where connection is made via the North Atlantic cable system to Great Britain and other parts of the world.

The company has also established in the Island long-range wireless installations which, with its wireless coast station, are operated in conjunction with the cable system and provide services with many parts of the world and with a number of other West Indian islands which are not connected by cable. The coast station provides a service with ships at sea.

A wireless telephone service, which was inaugurated in 1945 in collaboration with the Barbados Telephone Company, has since been extended and now provides services to the Commonwealth and foreign territories.

The Western Telegraph Company, Limited, and the Western Union Telegraph Company, have direct cable communication with Brazil, South America and Miami.

There is no internal telegraph system. Internal communications are provided by a telephone service to all parts of the island operated by a private company, the Barbados Telephone Company, Limited, which has a modern automatic central exchange in Bridgetown and five

branch exchanges, four of which are automatic. There are 3,754 exchange lines, 4,763 stations and 10 private branch exchanges with a total wire mileage of 24,815.

Chapter 12 : Barbados Regiment

At the end of the South African war the Imperial Government made known their intentions to withdraw the regular troops stationed in the Island. The Barbados Government, realising the necessity of providing itself with its own armed forces, passed an Act to establish the Barbados Volunteer Force. This came into being on 2nd July, 1902. The Governor, Sir Frederick Hodgson, K.C.M.G., was its first Commanding Officer.

The Force consisted of an infantry company of 50 members, a detachment of artillery and another of cyclists. The Inspector of Police was made *ex officio* Adjutant of the Force.

The first public parade was at His Majesty the King's Birthday Parade in 1904, when they took part with a battalion of the Worcestershire Regiment.

In 1907 a detachment of the Barbados Volunteer Force was sent to St. Lucia to help in quelling riots ; and in 1911 a contingent represented Barbados at His Majesty King George V's Coronation.

During the 1914-18 War the Force carried out certain defence duties, many of its members obtaining leave to proceed overseas to join active service units.

During the intervening years of peace, regular serving officers were appointed to carry out the duties of Staff Officer of the Local Forces and Adjutant of the Barbados Volunteer Force.

In 1939 the Force was embodied, and additional United Kingdom officers were later attached to assist in training.

In October, 1942, the War Office decided to include the Force in the Caribbean Regiment, the local Battalion being known as the Barbados Battalion. This unit later became the Islands Battalion and was disbanded in 1947.

Before demobilisation, the Governor, Sir Hilary Blood, K.C.M.G., appointed a committee to make recommendations on the reconstitution of the Barbados Volunteer Force. The recommendations were approved and the War Office handed over arms, ammunition, clothing, equipment, etc. to form a battalion.

Soon after recruiting started application was made to the local Government to have the name of the Force changed to the Barbados Regiment. The War Office raised no objection to this and the necessary bill was passed through the Legislature on 25th November, 1948.

In response to an application made in August, 1948, the Barbados Regiment is now affiliated to the Royal Leicestershire Regiment, which has associations with the Island.

In May, 1949, a Staff Officer and a R.S.M. (I) Instructor were

seconded from the Regular Army to supervise the organisation and training of the Regiment ; and to assist in the military training of the Police Force.

Apart from the normal training parades held throughout the year, annual camps take place each summer, when the Volunteers receive intensive training. The Regiment also plays a prominent part on all ceremonial occasions, and is inspected annually by the Commander, Caribbean Area.

PART III

Chapter 1 : Geography and Climate

BARBADOS, the most easterly of the West Indian islands, is situated in latitude $13^{\circ} 4'$ North and longitude $59^{\circ} 37'$ West. In latitude it compares with Madras or the Gambia, but the climate differs from both. The Island is triangular in shape and is 21 miles long by 14 miles across the widest part. It contains approximately 166 square miles, with a population at the end of 1950 of 211,682. It is approximately the size of the Isle of Wight.

Natural and climatic conditions justify the claim of Barbados to be the healthiest of all West Indian islands. The Island is much resorted to by residents in neighbouring Colonies, and a considerable number of visitors from northern climates find it an agreeable change. There is little variation in temperature, the range being generally from 69° to 90° F. and in the cool months—December to May—as low occasionally as 64° . The Island during this time gets the full benefit of the cool north-east trade winds.

“The geological structure of Barbados is extremely simple. It consists of a basement of much-folded sandstones and shales (the Scotland series) covered unconformably by the soft, chalklike rocks of the Oceanic series. Except in the Scotland district, both of these geological series are covered unconformably with a layer of coral limestone which varies in thickness from a thin veneer to 240–260 feet.”*

The Island lies almost out of the track of hurricanes, although it is a matter of history that these have swept over it at far intervals, notably in 1780, 1831 and 1898, doing considerable damage. Earth tremors have been occasionally felt, but severe earthquake shocks have not occurred.

In May 1812 Mount Soufrière on the island of St. Vincent, which is 95 miles to the west of Barbados, erupted, and thousands of tons of dust were deposited on the Colony. The dust is said to have improved the soil of the fields.

In appearance Barbados is peculiarly English. It lacks entirely the restless luxuriance of other tropical islands. Its general aspect is green and undulating, and because the colour of the sugar cane is the same as that of grass, for many months of the year the Barbados landscape recalls the downs of Sussex or the weald of Kent. The plantation houses, set in copses of dark-foliaged trees, increase the similarity.

The Island has many attractions for tourists—yachting, golf, cricket, tennis and some of the finest sea-bathing in the world. The hotels are good, and most of the clubs are open to visitors. The Island produces

* Starkey, *Economic Geography of Barbados*.

fine thoroughbred horses which compete successfully in the race meetings of other islands. The Barbados Turf Club holds four meetings a year. Polo is played, and there are pleasant rides over the countryside, particularly along the "intervals," as the grassy bridle paths through the fields are locally called.

Chapter 2 : History

As far as is known the original inhabitants of Barbados were the Arawak Indians who migrated from the mainland of South America. When they arrived is not known, but relics of their occupation down to the latter years of the sixteenth century have been discovered in various parts of the Island. By the time the English settlers came they had disappeared, partly through Carib raids from the neighbouring islands, and partly through the Spaniards, who deported them to work in the mines of Hispaniola.

The first Europeans to sight Barbados were Portuguese, at some time in the sixteenth century. They called it Los Barbados. In 1536 Pedro a Campos visited the Island and left pigs to breed so that wayfarers should not lack food. He found no Indians. The Island was deserted. The Portuguese never claimed possession of the Island and it remained without nationality until Captain Cataline of the *Olive Blossom*, driven out of his course on a voyage to Guiana, landed on the leeward coast near the modern Hometown and erected a cross and inscribed on a tree nearby "JAMES K OF E AND OF THIS ISLAND." This happened in 1625 ; but it was not until 1627 that the first settlement was made. In the previous year the King, James I, granted the Island to the Earl of Marlborough, whose protégé, Sir William Courteen, fitted out an expedition commanded by one John Powell. Powell, however, carried letters of marque and, having captured a Spanish prize, returned with it to Cowes in July 1626 without having reached the Island. A second expedition was fitted out, and on 20th February, 1627, the ship *William and John*, commanded by Henry Powell, landed 80 settlers at the spot where Captain Cataline had set up his cross. They called it the Hole, hence the modern name of Hometown.

Meanwhile, in 1623, another nobleman, the Earl of Carlisle, had shown his interest in the West Indies. Under his patronage Thomas Warner had succeeded in establishing in St. Christopher the first settlement in the British West Indian Colonies. In 1627, when Charles I issued Letters Patent to Lord Carlisle granting him proprietary rights over all the "Caribee Islands" Barbados was apparently included. Lord Carlisle bought off Lord Marlborough's interest by settling on him and his heirs an annuity of £300. Courteen fitted out the original expedition of 1625, waited until Lord Carlisle was absent from England and induced yet another nobleman, the Earl of Pembroke, to claim Barbados. Once again Letters Patent were issued, this time granting Barbados and three other islands to Lord Pembroke. When Lord

Carlisle returned to England and discovered what had happened, he succeeded in getting himself reinstated. He also took practical steps to secure his possession of the Island by sending out sixty-four new settlers who founded St. Michael's town, on the site of Bridgetown, the present capital. This settlement immediately quarrelled with the older colony and after a fight, the windward men, as the newcomers were called, overcame the leeward men.

In 1636 Lord Carlisle died, leaving his rights in Barbados and the Caribbee Islands in trust for the payment of his debts with remainder to his son, who in 1647, leased his rights to Lord Willoughby of Parham for twenty-one years. In 1650 Lord Willoughby assumed the Government of Barbados in the name of the King and caused an Act to be passed recognising the rights of the King, Lord Carlisle and himself; but in 1652 the Island capitulated to a force despatched by the Commonwealth on terms providing for government by a Governor appointed by the Commonwealth. This was the extinction of proprietary rule.

At the Restoration the various claims based or secured on the Carlisle Patent revived, but a return to the proprietary system was strongly opposed by the planters whose titles to land were in many cases defective. After lengthy negotiations a settlement was arrived at, based on the surrender of the Carlisle Patent to the Crown and the compensation of the various claims out of a fixed revenue provided by the Colony in return for the confirmation of local land titles. The financial terms of the settlement were laid down by an Order in Council allocating the future revenue of the Caribbee Islands, that is to say, Barbados and the Leeward Islands, to the satisfaction of the claims, after which it was to revert to the Crown. The revenue itself was provided by a $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent duty on exports which was imposed by Acts passed by the Barbados Legislature in 1663, and by that of the Leeward Islands in 1664. This duty continued in force and was a constant source of grievance to the Colonies until 1838 when it was abolished by an Act of the Imperial Parliament.

Barbados has never changed hands since the date of settlement, but it has had some narrow escapes. In 1665 the Dutch Admiral, de Ruyter, attempted to capture it with a fleet of twenty-five ships of the line, two fire ships and 2,500 troops. When the news of his approach reached Barbados the British ships were brought in close under the batteries. The Dutch fleet attempted to follow them, but the fire from the English vessels was so destructive that the flagship was disabled and the expedition was forced to withdraw.

During the eighteenth century when the West Indies were involved in the French and American wars, Barbados was liable to attack and was ringed with forts, the crumbling stones and rusting guns of which still remain. In 1782 the Island was saved from occupation only by Rodney's victory in the "Battle of the Saints" on 12th April. Again, in 1805, the forts were manned when it was learned that the French and Spanish fleets had been sighted off St. Lucia, but the arrival of Nelson on board the *Victory* accompanied by the whole English fleet, restored tranquillity. Nelson's visit to the Island and the gratitude of the

inhabitants for their delivery were commemorated by the erection in 1811 of a bronze statue in Trafalgar Square, overlooking the Bridgetown carenage.*

The first settlers had raised tobacco and cotton. In 1644 certain Dutch sugar planters and traders, expelled from Guiana by the Portuguese, introduced their craft to Barbados. The first mills were worked by cattle, but in 1655 the windmill was introduced. In 1841 the first steam engines were at work and thereafter the windmills declined. The last of them ceased work in 1946.

During the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries Barbados was an island of plenty and prosperity. Many English families settled there, as place-names and memorials bear witness, for instance, Codrington College, Bulkeley and Lascelles Plantations, Drax Hall, Edgumbe and Frere Pilgrim estates. The Council Chamber possesses portraits of the first, second and third Earls of Harewood. The planters were rich and displayed their wealth as was customary at the time, partly by erecting ostentatious monuments by the finest British sculptors of the day. The interior of a Barbados parish church has, therefore, a particularly English look. Many of the memorials are the work of sculptors of Liverpool and Bristol, from which so many of the settlers had come, but there are also examples of the work of Flaxman and Bacon ; and the little church of St. George can boast of a memorial of Nollekens on its southern wall, one by Westmacott on its northern wall, and an altar-piece by Benjamin West. Other churches have their interest. It was in a vault in the churchyard of Christ Church that in 1820 there occurred the well-known and mysterious displacement of coffins. The graveyard of St. John's Church contains a memorial to Ferdinando Paleologus "descended from the Imperial line of the last Christian Emperors of Greece".

Ever since the Island was first colonised, the connection between Barbados and Northern America has been very close. Many families in the Carolinas, and some even as far north as New England, reached America *via* Barbados.

The bond between Barbados and Britain has been maintained by a number of well-known names, down to our day. Warren Hastings' father, Penniston, was at one time Rector of Christ Church, though Warren himself was born in England. Leigh Hunt was of Barbadian parentage, his grandfather having been Rector of St. Michael, and his father a clergyman who flitted between Bridgetown and Philadelphia before settling down as a fashionable preacher in London. The famous Chenery, Professor of Arabic at Oxford, reviser of the Old Testament, and Editor of the *The Times* from 1877 to 1884, was born in Barbados in 1826. In our own day, Sir Frank Newsam, Permanent Under Secretary of State for Home Affairs, was a Barbadian ; and the Island takes pride in the fact that John Goddard was chosen to captain both the West Indies cricket team which met the M.C.C. in January, 1948

* In 1914 Barbados was again exposed to the enemy. The German cruiser *Karlsruhe* was ordered to attack the Island, but blew up *en route*.

(for two of the four test matches), and the West Indies team which toured India, Pakistan and Ceylon a year later.

During the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries a prosperous Sephardic Jewish community grew up in Barbados. They gradually declined through emigration and assimilation, until in the early years of the century the community disappeared. Their beautifully furnished synagogue was alienated—it is now the headquarters of the Barbados Turf Club and a Political Association—and the graveyard desecrated, many of its memorials being broken. Of recent years a new, Ashkenazi, community of some sixteen families from Europe has grown up.

In 1751, George Washington, then a lad of nineteen, visited Barbados as the companion of his dying brother, Lawrence, who came to Barbados in the hope of recovering his health. Washington, as his diary records, was much taken with the Island. He enjoyed his rides in the cool of the day, and he met the best society in the Island, becoming a member of the Beefsteak and Tripe Club. He is known to have visited Christ Church and to have dined at Graeme Hall nearby. On leaving the Island he recorded in his diary: "Hospitality and genteel behaviour is shown to every Gentleman stranger by the inhabitants."

The devastating hurricane of 1831 put an end to these halcyon days, and the West Indies as a whole were already entering a trough of depression.

Emancipation of the slaves in 1834 caused a great change in the economy of the Island, despite the compensation of £1½ million which the planters received from the British Treasury. It did not for some time greatly amend the status of the slaves. The white minority, the old "plantocracy" still dominated the Island politically, socially and commercially. In 1876 matters came to a head in the so-called Confederation Riots.

A new Governor, John Pope Hennessy, was appointed with instructions to secure from the Legislature consent to certain measures of administrative unification in the Windward group, of which Barbados was the headquarters. One purpose of these proposals, prematurely labelled as "Confederation", was to by-pass the consistent obstructiveness of a Legislature elected by 1,300 voters out of a population of over 160,000; and Barbadian particularism, fearful for the independence of its Legislature, and even more of its Treasury, was up in arms at once. A "Defence Association" was formed among the upper and middle classes to mobilise opposition to the plans of the Colonial Office, and this led to a counter-agitation among the labourers, who supposed that Confederation would benefit them. Hennessy, whose zeal and energy were not supported by good political judgment, had given some encouragement to this belief; and in April, 1876, the astonishing spectacle was seen of widespread rioting by negroes who understood that in robbing provision fields, sacking plantation houses, and destroying livestock, they were carrying out the wishes of the representative of the Queen. Hennessy showed promptness, firmness and temperance in suppressing the disturbances, and the casualties were not large—eight killed and thirty-odd injured; figures very

similar to those in the 1937 disturbances, which preceded the appointment of the Moyne Commission. In neither case was any white person killed.

After Hennessy had been diplomatically transferred to another Government, the extreme political tension in the Island was eased. The Barbadian political system appeared to have emerged from the crisis intact ; but, after an attempt to secure for the Government official representation in the House of Assembly had failed, a compromise was reached in the Executive Committee Act of 1881. By this scheme, the Governor was required to call in his Executive Council, four members of the Assembly and one of the Legislative Council, to form an Executive Committee for the discussion and transaction of financial business, and the consideration of legislative measures at large.

In the absence of further acute conflict between the two branches of the Government the plan worked fairly well, until, in quite recent times, an enlarged franchise and a more widely diffused political consciousness exposed its weaknesses. During the late war the failure of the Executive Committee to keep the confidence of the House of Assembly produced a virtual legislative deadlock. The recent experiment, inaugurated in 1946, is an attempt to solve this, by requiring the Governor to ask the person best able to command a majority in the House of Assembly to suggest what members of the House shall sit in the Executive Committee—thus tentatively establishing without any legal alteration in the constitution, something like responsible party government.*

The 'eighties were a period of depression in world trade. From 1885 onwards, mainly owing to competition from bounty-fed sugar, Barbados was in the grip of an agricultural crisis. In 1894 the price of sugar fell to 9s. a hundredweight, and the next year the Bourbon cane, for so long the planters' standby, succumbed to the drought and moth borer. In such circumstances men were less inclined to favour constitutional than economic and social reform. Two measures of constitutional interest—a private member's Bill to retrench by amalgamating the offices of Governor and Colonial Secretary, and a similar Bill to exclude the Auditor-General from the House of Assembly and the Executive Committee—caused a little stir, but did not reach the Statute Book.

In 1896 a Royal Commission was appointed to investigate conditions in the West Indies. It had many important results, although some of these were long delayed. An Imperial Department of Agriculture was set up with headquarters in Barbados in 1898 ; John R. Bovell, of the local Department of Agriculture, was stimulated in his search for new varieties of cane. The disappearance of the Bourbon cane might have proved a permanent disaster, not only for Barbados, but for the whole West Indies, had it not been for Bovell's demonstrating that cane "arrows" or flowers, produce fertile seed, and that by cross-breeding many varieties of improved cane could be propagated

* For this, and other developments during and since the war, see Annual Report for 1947, Part I, Chapter 1, and Part III, Chapter 3.

from seed. The British West Indies Cane Breeding Station is now established in Barbados and is a memorial to Bovell's genius. In 1902 the sugar bounties were abolished and the Imperial Government made a gift of £250,000 to the West Indies, of which £80,000 fell to Barbados. This amount was at first administered by Commissioners as a loan fund for the benefit of sugar estates, and became in 1907, the nucleus of the capital of the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank. Meanwhile, the Court of Chancery was working at full pressure. Very few estates were abandoned or cut up and sold in lots, but on all the number of workers and the level of wages were necessarily reduced. With the population at 182,000 or 1,000 to the square mile, and a one-crop economy, this meant not only increased unemployment, but destitution. On top of this came the hurricane of 1898, not causing much loss of life, it is true, but adding greatly to the prevailing distress, especially among the labouring classes.

The price of sugar fell below a dollar a hundredweight. In 1902 there was an epidemic of smallpox. In 1905-6 the Imperial troops were withdrawn, which meant an annual loss of nearly £80,000.

Under this economic pressure the absentee proprietors who, at the time of the visit of the Royal Commission owned one-third of the acreage of the Island, dropped out of the race. They were succeeded by a set of new men who brought a new spirit and new methods of rehabilitation of the sugar industry. The need for economy and efficiency led to the creation of a number of factories controlling groups of estates. Moreover, after 1900 there was a great wave of emigration from among the lower-middle and the labouring classes to the United States and the Panama Canal works. Between 1906 and 1910 the remittances of these emigrants averaged well over £65,000. Several estates were cut up in lots and sold to the returned emigrants or their relatives. By 1913 there were 13,000 peasants who owned lots of five acres and under.

In 1913 the exodus to Panama ceased, but during the 1914-18 war and for some time after there was a boom in sugar and the prosperity it brought continued until about 1930. It was evident in the improved standard of living. An income tax was instituted in 1921.

By 1930 economic distress was again making itself felt, and in 1937 Barbados had its share of those disturbances which occurred throughout the West Indies. In that year a Royal Commission was sent to the West Indies, and from its labours, and the reforms produced, dates yet another period in the social and political development of the Colony.

Chapter 3 : Administration

Barbados possesses representative institutions, but not complete responsible Government. The Crown has only a veto on legislation, but the Secretary of State retains his appointment and control of Public Officers.

The Legislature consists of the Governor, the Legislative Council,

consisting of 14 members appointed by Her Majesty, and the House of Assembly, consisting of 24 members (two for each parish and two for the city of Bridgetown) elected for a period of two years. The House of Assembly was constituted in 1639 and is the oldest colonial legislative body after the Bermuda House of Assembly. In 1944 the income qualification for voters was reduced from £50 to £20 per year, and the franchise was given to females, who also became eligible for election as members. In 1950 the income qualification was abolished and adult suffrage introduced.

The executive part of the Government is vested in the Governor and an Executive Council and, in respect of certain matters, an Executive Committee. In actual practice, apart from advising the Governor with regard to the exercise of the Royal prerogative of mercy, nearly all the Executive Council's functions are discharged by the Executive Committee. The Executive Council consists of the Colonial Secretary and the Attorney-General *ex officio*, and of such other persons as Her Majesty may appoint. The Executive Committee, which is created by local statute, consists of the Executive Council *ex officio* and of one member of the Legislative Council and four members of the House of Assembly appointed by the Governor at the commencement of each session of the Legislature. The Executive Committee introduces all money votes, prepares the estimates and initiates all Government measures ; it is also responsible for the conduct of public works, and the control and management of Government property.

Until 1946 the Attorney-General, who is a full-time Government officer, was expected to stand for election for the House of Assembly and to take charge of Government business in the House of Assembly. In his speech when proroguing the Legislature at the end of 1946 the Governor stated that in future the Officer administering the Government would at the beginning of each session send for the member of the House who in his opinion was best able to command a majority in the House and would invite him to submit the names of four members of the House of Assembly for appointment to Executive Committee. At the same time the permission granted to the Attorney-General to seek election was withdrawn and the responsibility for the conduct of public business in the House of Assembly placed in the hands of those members of Executive Committee appointed from the House.

The Governor has the right to address the Legislature at any time, but this right is usually exercised only at the opening or close of the session. On other occasions the Governor communicates with either Chamber by a Message which is presented to the Chamber by a member of the Executive Committee. Communications from either Chamber to the Governor take the form of an Address which must be approved by a majority vote. The House of Assembly has no standing committee of finance and any application by the Governor-in-Executive Committee to approve expenditure, which is not authorised by an Act or in the annual Estimates of the Colony, must be approved by resolution of the Legislature before expenditure can be incurred.

The Island is administered as one unit except in respect of local

government matters, which are in the hands of the Vestries and Parochial Boards of the eleven parishes. The Vestries are elected annually, and each Vestry appoints Commissioners of Highways, Commissioners of Health and Poor Law Guardians for the parish. The two last-named bodies rely for revenue upon grants from the Vestry, but the Commissioners of Highways, who are responsible for the upkeep of all public highways in the parish which are not maintained by the Central Government, collect all vehicle and highway taxes, and, in addition, receive grants-in-aid from the Central Government. The Vestries derive their revenue mainly from taxes on ownership and occupancy of land and houses and trade tax ; the rates for these are fixed annually so as to bring in sufficient revenue to meet the estimated expenditure for the year. The Vestries undertake the repair and maintenance of churches and church buildings and the Rector of each parish is chairman of the Vestry *ex officio*.

Chapter 4 : Weights and Measures

The standard of weights and superficial measure is the same as in the United Kingdom, but the local standard measure of capacity is 231 cubic inches to the gallon (known as the wine gallon).

Chapter 5 : Newspapers and Periodicals

<i>Advocate</i>	.	.	.	.	Daily except Monday
<i>Evening Advocate</i>	.	.	.	.	Monday
<i>Recorder</i>	.	.	.	.	Monday, Wednesday and Saturday
<i>Observer</i>	.	.	.	.	Saturday
<i>Torch</i>	.	.	.	.	Saturday
<i>Beacon</i>	.	.	.	.	Saturday
<i>Barbados Commercial Journal</i>	.				Monthly
<i>Annual Review</i>					

Chapter 6 : Reading List

- Advocate Year Book and Who's Who, Barbados*, 1951. Barbados Advocate Press, 1952.
- Barbados Department of Science and Agriculture. *Garden Book of Barbados*. Barbados Advocate Press.
- Barbados Museum and Historical Society. *Journal of the Barbados Museum and Historical Society*, Vols. I–XIV.
- CLARKE, SIR CHARLES PITCHER. *The Constitutional Crisis of 1876 in Barbados*. Barbados Herald Press, 1896.
- DAVIS, N. DARNELL. *The Cavaliers and Roundheads of Barbados 1650–52, with some account of the early history of Barbados*. Georgetown, British Guiana "Argosy Press." 1883. (Tells of the early life of this old English Colony, and describes a little-known episode of the Great Civil War).
- HALL, RICHARD. *A general account of the first settlement and the trade and constitution of the island of Barbados ; written in the year 1755*. With a foreword by E. M. Shilstone. Barbados, 1924.
- HARLOW, VINCENT T. *A History of Barbados 1625–1685*. Oxford, Clarendon Press, 1926.
- HARLOW, VINCENT T. *Christopher Codrington*. Oxford, Clarendon Press, 1928.
- HARRISON, J. B., and JUKES-BROWNE, A. J. *Geology of Barbados*. Barbados, Bennett Bros. for the Barbadian Legislature, 1890.
- HEWITT, J. M. (ed.) *Silver Jubilee Magazine*. Barbados Herald Press, 1935.
- HIGHAM, C. S. S. *Development of the Leeward Islands under the Restoration, 1660–1668 ; a study of the Foundation of the Old Colonial System*. Cambridge University Press, 1921. (Gives detailed information about the early settlement of Barbados, once included in the Leewards.)
- LIGON, RICHARD. *A true and exact History of the Island of Barbados : illustrated with a map of the island, as also the principal trees and plants there, drawn out by their several and respective scales. Together with the Ingenio that makes the sugar, with the plots of the severall houses, rooms and other places, that are used in the process of sugar-making*. London, Humphrey Moseley, 1657. Reprinted by the Extra-Mural Department of the University College of the West Indies. Caribbean Affairs No. 6, 1950.

- OLIVER, V. L. *The Monumental Inscriptions in the Churches and Churchyards of the Island of Barbados*. London, 1915.
- POYER, JOHN. *History of Barbados, from the first discovery of the Island in the year 1605, till the accession of Lord Seaforth, 1801*. London, Mawman, 1808.
- REECE, J. E., and CLARK-HUNT, C. G. (eds.) *Barbados Diocesan History, in commemoration of the first centenary of the Diocese, 1825-1925*. London, W. I. Committee, 1925.
- SAVAGE, RAYMOND. *Barbados, British West Indies*. London, Barker, 1936.
- SCHOMBURGK, Sir ROBERT HERMANN. *History of Barbados ; comprising a geographical and statistical description of the island ; a sketch of the historical events since the settlement, and an account of its geology and natural productions*. London, Longmans, 1848.
- STARKEY, OTIS P. *Economic Geography of Barbados, a study of the relationships between environmental variations and economic development*. New York, Columbia University Press, 1939.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS

Obtainable, if in print, from H.M. Stationery Office at the addresses shown on cover page three or through any bookseller. Prices in brackets include postage.

- Report of the West Indian Conference held in Barbados, 21st-30th March, 1944*. Colonial No. 187, 1944. Price 6d. (7½d.).
- Closer Association of the British West Indian Colonies*. Cmd. 7120, 1947. 9d. (10½d.).
- Conference on the Closer Association of the British West Indian Colonies, Montego Bay, Jamaica, 11th September to 19th September, 1947*. Part I : Report. Cmd. 7291, 1948. 9d. (11d.). Part II : Proceedings. Colonial No. 218, 1948. 3s. (3s. 3d.).
- Report of the Commission on the Unification of the Public Services in the British Caribbean Area, 1948-49*. Colonial No. 254, 1950. 2s. (2s. 2d.).
- Report of the British Caribbean Standing Closer Association Committee, 1948-49*. Colonial No. 255, 1950. 3s. (3s. 3d.).
- Report of the Commission on the Establishment of a Customs Union in the British Caribbean Area, 1948-50*. Colonial No. 268, 1950. 7s. 6d. (7s. 10d.).
- West India Royal Commission Report*. Cmd. 6607, 1945. Out of print.

Development and Welfare in the West Indies,

- 1940-42. Colonial No. 184, 1943. *Out of print.*
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 1945-46. Colonial No. 212, 1947. 3s. (3s. 2d.).
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 1950. Colonial No. 269, 1951. 4s. 6d. (4s. 9d.).
 1951. Colonial No. 282, 1952. 4s. 6d. (4s. 9d.).

Agriculture in the West Indies. Colonial No. 182, 1942. *Out of print.*

West India Royal Commission Report on Agriculture, Fisheries, Forestry and Veterinary Matters, by F. L. ENGLEDDOW. Cmd. 6608, 1945. 3s. 6d. (3s. 10d.).

Report of the West Indian Sugar Commission. Part I-III. Cmd. 3517 1930. 2s. (2s. 2d.). Part IV. Colonial No. 49, 1930. 3s. 6d. (3s. 8d.). Statement of Policy. Cmd. 3523, 1930. 1d. (2½d.).

Correspondence relating to the Position of the Sugar Industry in certain West Indian Colonies, British Guiana and Mauritius. Cmd. 3705, 1930. 1s. 3d. (1s. 5d.). Further Correspondence. Cmd. 3745, 1930. 4d. (5½d.).

Nutrition in the West Indies. Report by B. S. PLATT. Colonial No. 195, 1946. 9d. (11d.).

Labour Conditions in the West Indies. Report by G. St. J. ORDE BROWNE. Cmd. 6070, 1939. 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.).

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Agreement for the Establishment of the Caribbean Commission. Cmd. 6972, 1946. 2d. (3½d.).

Obtainable, if in print, from the Government Printer,
 Barbados, or through Crown Agents for the Colonies,
 4 Millbank, London, S.W.1

Official Gazette

Minutes of Proceedings of the Legislative Council

Legislative Council Debates

Proceedings of the House of Assembly

House of Assembly Debates

Colonial Estimates

Annual Departmental Reports

Agricultural Development in Barbados ; Despatches from the Comptroller for Development and Welfare in the West Indies to His Excellency the Governor of Barbados. 1942.

A Ten-Year Development Plan for Barbados : Sketch Plan, 1946-56.

Census of the Colony of Barbados, 9th April, 1946 (West Indian Census, 1946, Part C).

Report on the Proposed Construction of a Deep-Water Wharf. By Sir DOUGLAS RITCHIE. 2 vols. 1949.

Report on Local Government in Barbados. By Sir JOHN MAUDE. 1949.

Report on Oil Development Policy in Barbados. By G. W. LEPPER, 1949.

Obtainable, if in print, from the Development and Welfare Organisation, Hastings House, Barbados.

Reports on the Ground Water Resources of Barbados. By GEORGE RODDAM. 1948.

The Sea Fisheries of Barbados. By H. H. BROWN. Bulletin No. 1 of 1942.

The National Income of Barbados, 1942. By S. BENHAM. Bulletin No. 9 of 1945.

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PART I

Review of 1952 and 1953

THE period under review opened with the first business meeting of the first House of Assembly to be elected under adult suffrage. It closed with the decision to institute a ministerial system of Government, which conferred on Barbados a further measure of responsible government.

At the general election in December, 1951, the Labour Party was returned with a substantial working majority, having 16 of the 24 seats ; the Electors' Association obtained four seats, the Congress Party two, and there were two Independents.

In 1952 the Government introduced a Bill to the Legislature setting out its far-reaching proposals for the reorganisation of local government including the abolition of the eleven Vestries as the instruments of local government and the substitution of a Corporation for Bridgetown and two District Councils. The Bill was based upon the recommendations of Sir John Maude who had visited the Island in 1948. The Bill, known locally as the "Maude Bill," was passed by the House of Assembly but was rejected in the Legislative Council. It was re-introduced in the next session of the Legislature and has now been passed with some amendments.

In 1953 the Legislature passed an Act extending the life of the House of Assembly from three years to five ; an Act extending the life of the House from two years to three had been passed in the previous session. This was in accordance with the general trend of recent political development, with the growth of a party system of Government and the acceptance of the convention that the party in power would resign if defeated on a major issue. Prior to this, when members were elected purely as individuals owing no party allegiance, the shorter life of the House was designed to keep them in touch with the feelings of the electorate.

Owing to the fact that salaries and conditions of service for administrative, professional and technical officers were proving insufficient to attract officers of the standard required for the Government service, a large number of vacancies in these fields remained unfilled at the end of 1951. To remedy this situation a committee appointed early in 1952 submitted recommendations for increasing salaries and granting paid leave passages. These proposals were accepted by the Legislature and, as a corollary, by the end of the year a Commissioner, Sir Errol Dos Santos, was appointed to examine the salaries and conditions of the rest of the Civil Service. His recommendations for improvements were accepted by the Legislature in May, 1953.

In 1952 Professor Beasley, Economic Adviser to the Comptroller for Development and Welfare in the West Indies, submitted a fiscal

survey of the Island, and using this survey as a basis the Government prepared its Five-Year Plan of Development and Taxation. The expenditure proposals of the plan envisaged a capital programme of \$16,500,000 of which \$6,000,000 were to be paid for from loan funds and the balance from available funds, including funds under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act.

The development proposals may be summarised as follows :

- (a) Development and distribution of water resources.
- (b) Experiments and research in irrigation of sugar and other crops.
- (c) Encouragement of food production and agricultural schemes.
- (d) Encouragement of a tourist industry.
- (e) Establishment of a Development Board to encourage secondary industries.
- (f) Housing loans to be made available for workers.
- (g) Improved educational, health and other services.
- (h) Provision of rural amenities.

Apart from monies to be raised by loans, it was proposed to increase taxation in order to raise \$1,500,000 additional revenue in an average crop year of 150,000 tons of sugar, and to decrease expenditure on subsidisation and other items by about \$615,125.

Under the taxation proposals, income tax of both individuals and companies was increased, as were duties on tobacco and spirits. An entertainment tax was introduced. The Government also increased its charges for a number of services such as stamp duties, rents, water rates, postal rates and general fees, few of which had been revised for several decades.

The news of the death of His Majesty King George VI was received with a sense of deep personal loss by all sections of the community, and expressions of sorrow were spontaneous and sincere. Memorial services were held and mourning observed. The tributes which were paid to His Majesty in both Chambers of the Legislature and in all sections of the Press were, without exception, tinged with genuine respect and affection, and the affirmations of loyalty to the new Queen were most real.

The Island was honoured by a visit from Her Royal Highness the Princess Royal from 19th to 24th February, 1953. The two most important ceremonies at which Her Royal Highness took a leading part were the unveiling of a plaque on the War Memorial in Trafalgar Square in commemoration of those Barbadians who gave their lives in the 1939-45 war and the presentation of the Queen's Colour and the Regimental Colour to the Barbados Regiment at the Garrison Savannah. Large numbers of people attended these functions and wherever Her Royal Highness went the routes were thronged with enthusiastic crowds.

Her Royal Highness passed through Seawell Airport on her return to the United Kingdom when the news was received of the illness of Queen Mary. This second loss to the Royal Family in such a short space of time caused genuine grief, and, after a memorial service in St.

Michael's Cathedral, both Chambers of the Legislature met to pass addresses of condolence.

The preparations for the Coronation celebrations began in earnest towards the end of 1952 and the complete success of all the varied activities showed that the efforts of the many people who took part in the arrangements were well worth while. The celebrations opened with the League of Empire Week during the last week in May and lasted until the Queen's official birthday on 11th June. The celebrations were enjoyed by all sections of the community, and the demonstrations of loyalty and affection to the Crown were deep and moving. Bridgetown was brightly decorated and brilliantly illuminated, and a most pleasing feature was the way that the smaller streets and smaller houses throughout the countryside added their quota to the general display.

Visits to the Island were paid by H.M. Ships *Devonshire*, *Enard Bay*, *Burghead Bay*, *Bigbury Bay*, *Veryan Bay*, *Implacable* and *Sheffield*.

The rainfall throughout the period was above average and seasonable in its distribution with the result that the sugar crop was well above the 150,000 tons taken as the basis of the Government's revenue expectations in the Five-Year Plan of Development and Taxation. The size of the crop in recent years may be judged by comparing it with the average tonnage for previous periods.

1942-1944	110,964	average
1945-1948	107,726	"
1949	152,731	
1950	158,183	
1951	187,643	
1952	167,875	
1953	160,750	

The Gulf Oil Corporation began drilling for petroleum at Turner Hall in January, 1953.

In the early part of 1953 after protracted negotiations agreement was reached with the British Union Oil Company on the question of the compensation to be paid to the Company as a result of the Government taking over the rights to petroleum in the Island under the authority of the Petroleum Act.

On the early morning of 19th March, 1953, the Island experienced an earthquake. The shock was minor and only lasted a few seconds. No major damage was done but several buildings throughout the Island developed cracks.

Barbados has had many visitors who have arrived under curious circumstances, including an alligator on a log which floated from the mainland of South America. In somewhat similar fashion Dr. A. L. Bombard, a French heart specialist, arrived in Barbados on 23rd December, 1952, in a rubber dinghy, after taking 62 days to cross the Atlantic from Las Palmas. The dinghy *L'Heretique* was 15 feet long and 5 feet wide, and Dr. Bombard subsisted during the voyage on raw fish, plankton and rain water. His object was to prove that persons ship-

wrecked at sea could survive for much longer periods than has hitherto been supposed possible.

On 5th November, 1952, the Governor, Sir Alfred Savage, K.C.M.G., left for the United Kingdom on leave prior to taking up his appointment as Governor of British Guiana. Brigadier Sir Robert Arundell, K.C.M.G., O.B.E., arrived in the Island on 14th May, 1953, and was sworn in as Governor. Sir Robert was the first Governor to arrive in the Island by air.

The Eighth Congress of the International Society of Sugar Cane Technologists was held in Barbados in April, 1953; it was attended by about 280 delegates from 30 different sugar-producing countries.

Other conferences held in, and visits made to, Barbados during the period were:— in 1952 the fourth meeting of the Regional Economic Committee, the first Caribbean Trade Union Conference, the Oils and Fats Conference, the visit of a mission of British industrialists to report on the possibility of industrialisation in the British West Indies; and in 1953 a visit of the United Kingdom Timber Mission, a visit of two members of the delegation from the United Kingdom Branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, the sixth meeting of the Regional Economic Committee and a Technical Civil Aviation Conference.

During 1953 the British Overseas Airways Corporation started a service from the United Kingdom via Bermuda which is proving of great benefit to the Island.

15th April, 1952, was the centenary of the first issue of postage stamps in Barbados and the event was marked by a commemorative issue.

The budget for 1952-53 was a continuation of the Government policy of "house keeping" pending an examination of the finances of the Island. This examination, the Fiscal Survey, was followed by the statement of Government policy in the Five-Year Plan of Development and Taxation. The 1953-54 Budget followed the pattern of the Plan, and provision was made for the expenditure of \$1,981,021 from available funds on capital works divided as follows :

	\$
Water Supplies	305,800
Housing	102,872
Medical Services	362,500
Education	408,609
Agriculture	254,240
Communications	313,000
Miscellaneous	234,000

In August, 1953, the Speightstown Health Centre was opened; it marked an important advance not only in the treatment of patients in the northern parishes but also in furthering Government's proposals for preventive medicine. The building of this centre began towards the end of 1952 and it is the first of its kind in Barbados.

A pilot scheme for the erection of aided self-help houses was com-

menced at Clinketts in St. Lucy Parish in March, 1953. Fifteen houses were planned each with three rooms, costing about \$1,000 each. This was the first scheme of the kind to be introduced and the experiment gives every indication of being a success.

A committee was appointed in February, 1953, to report on the action to be taken to establish a deep-water harbour in Barbados. The committee recommended the adoption of a scheme first submitted in 1948 for the construction of a deep-water harbour about one mile north of Bridgetown at a capital cost of over £4 million. Its report was published early in 1954.

A list of current and completed Colonial Development and Welfare schemes is contained in an appendix to this chapter. The most important scheme in progress is No. D. 217 Agricultural Development. This scheme, which is expected to cost \$1,059,000 (of which \$825,600 has been provided from Colonial Development and Welfare funds), was to have expired at the end of March, 1952, but has been extended to 1956. The Central Livestock Station and the six District Agricultural Stations were built from funds provided under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act. The running of these Stations, which do valuable work in improving livestock and agricultural methods among peasant farmers, has been taken over by the Government. The most important part of the scheme for agricultural development still being financed from Colonial Development and Welfare funds is the Irrigation Scheme for Peasant Proprietors, but its full benefit depends on the outcome of investigations and surveys of water resources. The development of water resources is the second major Colonial Development and Welfare scheme in operation (D. 1503). Under this scheme exploratory borings were carried out during 1952 in the Upland Valley (Sweet Vale) in the centre of the Island with a view to determining availability of water at the bottom of the coral, which overlies an impervious strata. An underground lake in the coral was discovered in 1953 about 120 feet below the ground surface with a water level about 580 feet above sea level. It is hoped to extract a million gallons per day from this lake, and the height of the lake above sea level will be of great value to the gravitational supply system.

The financing of the scheme for the extension of the Children's Museum (D. 206) from Colonial Development and Welfare funds came to an end during the period and the work has been carried on by the Barbados Museum and Historical Society with the help of an increased grant from Government.

The building of the Pine Primary School was begun during 1953 and approval received for the cost to be borne from Colonial Development and Welfare funds. The school is designed to relieve congestion at a nearby school and to serve the growing needs of the Government's Pine Housing Estate.

Plans for the future use of Colonial Development and Welfare funds include the extension of the General Hospital, the establishment of a Health Centre in Bridgetown and the extension of the Erdiston Teachers' Training College.

APPENDIX

List of Colonial Development and Welfare Schemes completed, in progress or initiated during the period 1st January, 1952 to 31st December, 1953.

	<i>Scheme No.</i>	<i>Grant \$</i>	<i>Title</i>
Completed	D. 13 (v)	648.00	Provision of Minor Amenities
	D. 13 C (ai)	1,440.00	do.
	D. 50	3,120.00	Control of Soil Erosion
	D. 200 C (g)	849.60	Training of Subordinate Personnel
	D. 200 C (p)	1,584.00	Training of Subordinate Personnel
	D. 201 A (a)	3,192.00	Provision of Technical Assistance
	D. 201 A (v)	811.20	Provision of Technical Assistance
	D. 201 A (x)	168.00	Provision of Technical Assistance
	D. 206	8,640.00	Establishment and Maintenance of a Children's Museum
	D. 237	51,840.00	Development of Social Services Part I
	D. 237	92,160.00	Development of Social Services Part II
	D. 252 & A	40,800.00	Women's Work Bureau
	D. 305	32,318.40	Promotion of 4-H Club Work
	D. 414	115,200.00	Training of Midwives
	D. 511	5,760.00	Fisheries Development
	D. 771 & A, B, & C	127,080.00	Aeronautical Wireless Facilities
	D. 845	22,944.00	Employment of a Constructional Engineer
	D. 964 & A & B	20,400.00	Labour Training Course
	D. 1108/155	2,803.00	Training of Personnel
	D. 1108/164	288.00	do.
	D. 1128 & A	11,184.00	Regional Broadcasting Conference, Montreal
	D. 1294 & A	1,620,000.00	Seawall Runway
	R. 72 & A	27,600.00	Appointment of Ceramist
	R. 100 (c)	2,400.00	Building Material Research
	R. 225	19,200.00	Survey of Friendly Societies in the West Indies
In Progress	D. 217	825,600.00	Agricultural Development
	D. 1108/159	7,080.00	Training of Personnel
	D. 1150	43,200.00	Vital Statistics
	D. 1503	28,800.00	Development of Water Resources
	R. 275	86,400.00	Sugar Cane Research
Initiated	D. 13 D (s)	240.00	Furnishing of Library at Codrington College
	D. 201 B (m)	3,456.00	Colonial Nursing Scheme (Visit of Miss Houghton)
	D. 1108	11,105.00	Training of Personnel
	D. 1742	24,000.00	Trade Union Training Courses
	D. 2092	69,120.00	Pine Primary School

PART II

Chapter 1: Population

THE total population of Barbados, according to the West Indian Census taken on 9th April, 1946, was 192,800, of which 85,727 were males and 107,073 were females. The previous count was made in 1931 when the population was given as 156,312 with 62,978 males and 93,334 females, which shows an increase of 36,529 during the fifteen years between the counts.

The population was distributed as follows :

Bridgetown	13,340
St. Michael (excluding Bridgetown)	63,097
Christ Church	24,963
St. George	14,409
St. Philip	14,876
St. John	10,096
St. James	11,297
St. Joseph	7,712
St. Thomas	8,486
St. Andrew	7,581
St. Peter	9,127
St. Lucy	7,816
	192,800

The population has continued to increase since the 1946 census and on 31st December, 1953, it was estimated to be 222,942 compared with 219,015 on 31st December, 1952. The 1953 estimate showed an increase of 30,142 over the census figure.

The density of population is calculated at 1,343 persons to the square mile.

Marriages

There were 1,013 marriages performed during 1952 and 1,091 in 1953 compared with 1,092 in 1951. These figures include marriages performed by Civil Magistrates and twenty religious denominations. The marriage rate per 1,000 of population was 9.8 in 1952 and 10.3 in 1953.

Births and Deaths

The number of births has increased steadily during the past few years. The number of deaths, including deaths under five years, have remained about the same. The following are the figures for the last five years :

Year	No.	BIRTHS		DEATHS	
		Rate per 1,000	% of Illegitimate	No.	Rate per 1,000
1949	6,357	31.06	56.54	2,979	14.56
1950	6,432	30.74	57.38	2,688	12.85
1951	6,793	31.83	n.a.	3,000	14.06
1952	7,291	34.16	n.a.	3,186	14.93
1953	7,304	34.51	n.a.	3,000	14.06

Infant Mortality

The infant mortality rates of children under one year per 1,000 live births for the past five years are as follows :

1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
133	125	136	146	139

The chief causes of infant mortality were diarrhoea, enteritis, pneumonia and congenital debility.

Chapter 2: Occupations, Wages and Labour Organisation

OCCUPATIONS

The economy of the Island depends almost entirely on the sugar industry and the chief occupation of the people is the cultivation and reaping of sugar cane. It is estimated that some 25,000 men and women are engaged primarily in the cultivation side of the industry. Most of these workers are employed on the sugar estates, but a number have small holdings of their own which they also cultivate. There were, in all, over 30,000 peasant holdings of less than 10 acres, on more than a third of which sugar cane was planted. Approximately 2,500 workers were employed in the sugar factories and syrup plants.

The distribution of workers among the main occupations was as follows :

	Males	Females
Sugar Estates	12,000	10,000
Sugar Factories	2,000	200
Domestic and Other Personal Services	2,500	11,500
Retail and Wholesale Trades	5,000	7,000
Transport and Communications	3,000	100
Manufacturing and Repairing Machinery and Vehicles	2,000	—
Minor Industries	1,000	360

In the absence of any unemployment registration it is difficult to assess unemployment or under-employment. From the sugar culti-

vation figures, however, it is estimated that seasonal unemployment during the inter-crop period is approximately 10,000.

The engagement of Barbadians for short-term contracts by private employers in the United States of America continued during 1952 and 1953. During 1952, 717 workers emigrated under the scheme. They were mainly employed in picking citrus in Florida and in picking cotton and planting, picking and grading tobacco in the mid-western states. At the end of the year there were 765 workers under contract. In 1953 1,000 workers emigrated. The majority were employed by U.S. Sugar Corporation, the Florida Fruit and Vegetable Association and Shade Tobacco Growers' Association. Their period of contract was for six months in the first instance. At the end of 1953 there were 1,266 workers on contract.

The cost of fares to the United States of America is advanced by the Barbados Government and the United States employers and refunded by the workers. On repatriation of workers who have completed their contracts, their expenses are partly met by their last employers, partly by the Barbados Government, and partly by themselves.

Workers were selected by the employers from persons called up by the Bureau of Employment and Emigration maintained by the Labour Department. All selected workers were medically examined by Government doctors.

During 1952, 29 workers were recruited for work in Curacao, Netherlands West Indies, by agents under licence granted by the Labour Department. No workers were recruited during 1953.

WAGES AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT

In 1952 the British Ministry of Food granted an increase in the price of sugar and the basic wage rates of all sugar workers were increased by 15 per cent through voluntary negotiations between the Sugar Producers Federation of Barbados and the Barbados Workers' Union.

In 1953 additional increases granted by the Ministry of Food resulted in a further rise of 12½ per cent in the wages of these workers.

As in the past, a cash bonus of 13 per cent and 11½ per cent, based on the production of the sugar crop, was also paid to all field and factory workers on their earnings during the reaping seasons of 1952 and 1953 respectively.

The basis for calculating wage rates for workers in sugar and syrup factories continued to be, in the majority of cases, on the number of tons of sugar and the number of puncheons of syrup produced. Each factory paid rates in accordance with its size and efficiency.

In other industries, occupations and services increases were also granted to workers during the period under review.

The cost-of-living allowance which was granted to the entire Civil Service, including casual workers, from June, 1951, was continued during 1952 and 1953. The allowance was paid on the following basis :

on the 1st	\$480 per annum—	20%
„ „ 2nd	„ „ „	—7½%
„ „ 3rd	„ „ „	—5%

The Holidays with Pay Act, 1951, provided for an annual holiday with pay of at least two weeks for every employee who has completed 150 days' work (in the case of daily paid workers) and 250 days' work (in the case of weekly, fortnightly, monthly or yearly workers) with one employer, within a period of 12 months. The employer determines the date on which the holiday begins, but he must give the workers at least seven day's notice. The quantum of holiday pay is $\frac{1}{26}$ of the total remuneration for the period of employment in respect of which the holiday is given.

In general, workers engaged in industrial and commercial undertakings are granted a rest period of at least 24 hours in every week.

Night work is performed in sugar factories and syrup plants during the crop season (mid-January to mid-June), and also in certain minor industries and public utilities.

COST OF LIVING

The cost-of-living index which stood at 292 in December, 1951, rose to 311 in January, 1952. There was a further increase of three points in the index figure at the end of February. These increases were due to higher prices of certain articles of food, clothing and hardware. At the end of March, however, the index dropped to 312 and remained relatively stable until March, 1953. But by the end of April the index rose by five points, due mainly to an increase in the price of flour, and then dropped again to 310 at the end of September.

The survey of income and consumption in the Colony, which was undertaken by the Institute of Social and Economic Research of the University College of the West Indies, was completed early in 1953 and the 1951 Committee was reappointed to examine the existing cost-of-living index in the light of information which had been provided by the survey, with a view to making recommendations for compilation of a new index. The Committee concluded that the data available from the survey provided a more reliable basis for a cost-of-living index than that obtained from statistics of imports and local production. It was accordingly recommended that a new index, to be called the "Index of Retail Prices", be instituted with June, 1953 as the base month.

It was also decided that for the period June to September, 1953 both the old and new indices would be constructed for the purpose of comparing their sensitivity. The recommendations of the Committee were accepted by Government. The index dropped from 100.0 in June to 99.3 in December.

Below are shown the cost-of-living indices from September, 1939 to September, 1953; the new indices of retail prices for the period June, 1953 to December, 1953; the prices of principal foodstuffs at the end of June and December, 1952, and at the end of June and December, 1953.

Cost-of-Living Indices to the end of September, 1953.

Base—January-August, 1939—100

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1939	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	100	110	111	111
1940	114	112	113	118	122	121	122	122	122	123	122	123
1941	124	124	125	128	129	130	130	131	134	136	136	137
1942	137	140	142	145	149	152	153	156	161	164	158	158
1943	156	164	162	162	163	166	166	166	170	168	168	168
1944	168	169	168	175	175	170	182	186	189	185	186	185
1945	185	183	183	186	186	186	187	187	191	189	190	194
1946	196	196	196	197	200	200	214	212	215	215	220	222
1947	228	224	228	228	225	225	223	223	224	226	226	226
1948	226	227	228	228	231	231	232	233	235	236	235	236
1949	235	234	235	230	226	227	229	226	225	224	224	228
1950	228	230	232	242	242	241	241	241	241	241	242	242
1951	243	246	250	256	264	272	274	278	282	284	284	292
1952	311	314	312	313	313	313	312	311	309	310	310	310
1953	311	310	312	317	317	316	314	312	310	—	—	—

Index of Retail Prices

Base—June, 1953—100.

Year				June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1953				100.0	99.5	99.6	99.9	99.6	99.2	99.3

Prices of Principal Foodstuffs Included in General Cost-of-Living Index

Item	Unit	Prices 1952	
		June	December
		<i>cents</i>	<i>cents</i>
Salted Beef . . .	lb.	22	22
Salted Pork (Heads) . . .	„	24	24
Fresh Meat . . .	„	51	51
Fish : Salted . . .	„	30	30
Fresh . . .	„	29	29
Flour . . .	„	10	10
Cornmeal . . .	„	12	12
Sugar . . .	„	8	8
Milk : Fresh . . .	pint	14.5	14.5
Condensed . . .	tin	33	32
Butter . . .	lb.	92	92
Margarine . . .	„	54	53
Edible Oil . . .	pint	33	33
Rice . . .	„	10	10
Salt . . .	lb.	4	4

Prices of Principal Foodstuffs Included in Index of Retail Prices

Item	Unit	Prices 1953	
		June	December
		<i>cents</i>	<i>cents</i>
Fresh Beef . . .	lb.	55	55
Fresh Pork . . .	„	62	62
Salt Pork . . .	„	30	30
Flying Fish . . .	each.	7	7
Canned Salmon . .	7½ oz. tin.	34	31
Wheat Flour . . .	lb.	12.5	12.5
Cornmeal . . .	„	11	11
Bread . . .	each	3	3
Rice . . .	pint	10	10
Sweet Potatoes . .	lb.	4	4
English Potatoes . .	„	12	10
Onions . . .	„	20	14
Sugar . . .	„	11	11
Milk : Fresh . . .	pint	15	15
Condensed . . .	14 oz. tin	32	27
Butter . . .	lb.	98	98
Cooking Oil . . .	pint	34	34
Cocoa . . .	½ lb. tin	51	51
Green Tea . . .	¼ lb. pkg.	40	43
Ju-C . . .	bottle	7	7
Coca Cola . . .	„	6	6

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

Trade Unions

There were nine registered trade unions at the end of 1953, but three of these were not active. Of the six active unions, three were employers' associations and three workers' organisations. Two of the workers' organisations were general workers' unions and one an association for teachers in secondary schools.

The Barbados Workers' Union is composed mainly of agricultural and factory workers in the sugar industry and port workers, but also includes workers of various other occupations. The union is organised into divisions, each division being composed of workers of a particular category. Each division is run by a committee of management, and enjoys a certain measure of autonomy. Matters which cannot be settled at the divisional level are referred to the Executive Council. The paid up membership of the union at the end of 1953 was 7,859.

The Association of Assistant Teachers in Secondary Schools is managed by an executive committee the size of which is determined

by the membership of the Association, i.e. one representative from a school is appointed to the committee for every 10 members from that school. The association had a paid up membership of 50 at the end of 1953.

The General Workers' Union, which was registered on 27th October, 1953, has so far restricted its membership to casual Government employees, mainly artisans and labourers. No information is available regarding its paid up membership.

The Shipping and Mercantile Association is composed of local steamship agents and general merchants. It has a paid up membership of 30.

The Sugar Producers' Federation of Barbados consists of owners of sugar factories and sugar plantations, who together control about 70 per cent of the industry. The Federation is organised as a single body under a committee of management, but there are also a Factory Wages Committee and a Plantation Wages Committee.

The Bus Owners' Association comprises the majority of the smaller bus concessionaires. It has nine members.

The Sugar Producers' Federation's representatives meet representatives of the Barbados Workers' Union annually in order to negotiate wages and conditions in the sugar industry.

The Shipping and Mercantile Association and the Barbados Workers' Union use the facilities of the Labour Department for the purpose of discussing wages and other matters affecting the employment of port workers. A Joint Committee, and seven Divisional Port Committees, corresponding to the seven categories of port labour, provide the chief machinery for joint consultation and collective bargaining between port employers and port workers. Each committee is composed of five representatives from the Shipping and Mercantile Association, five representatives from the Barbados Workers' Union and a secretary from the Labour Department. A committee may appoint its chairman from among its own members or may request an officer of the Labour Department to be chairman.

Negotiations between the Barbados Workers' Union and other private undertakings affecting wage rates, hours of work and other conditions of employment of various categories of workers were also conducted under the auspices of the Labour Department.

The names of the registered unions and the dates on which they were registered are as follows :

<i>Employers' Organisations</i>	<i>Date Registered</i>
Shipping and Mercantile Association	11.5.1945
Sugar Producers' Federation of Barbados	8.12.1945
Barbados Bus Owners' Association	16.4.1947
Barbados Hackney and Livery Car Owners' Association	9.10.1948

Workers' Unions

Barbados Workers' Union		4.10.1941
Barbados Clerks' Union		15. 5.1945
The Association of Assistant Teachers in Secondary Schools		31. 7.1949
The Caribbean Workers' Union		22. 2.1950
The General Workers' Union		27.10.1953

Trade Disputes, 1952-53

<i>Number of Disputes</i>	<i>Industry or Occupation</i>	<i>Man days Lost</i>	<i>Number now settled</i>
1	Agriculture (Sugar Estates)	475	1
1	Foundries	34	1
3	Barbados Electric Supply Corporation	366	3
3	Port Workers	298	3

LABOUR LEGISLATION

The following legislation affecting labour was passed during the year 1952 :

Labour Clauses (Public Contracts) Act, 1952, which makes provision for carrying out the International Labour Convention relating to labour clauses in public contracts.

Wages Board (Bridgetown Shop Assistants) (Amendment) Decisions, 1952, which came into force from 27th April, 1952, and which authorise an increase in the minimum time rates payable to shop assistants in Bridgetown as follows :

<i>Shop Assistants</i>	<i>Minimum rate per week</i>	
	<i>Old</i>	<i>New</i>
Male or female under 16 years of age	\$4.00	\$5.00
Female 16 years of age and over	5.50	7.00
Male 16 years of age and over	8.00	10.00
	<i>Minimum rate per day or part thereof</i>	
Male or female under 16 years of age	\$.80	\$.96
Female 16 years of age and over	1.20	1.44
Male 16 years of age and over	1.80	2.16

*Minimum Overtime Rate Per
Hour or part thereof*

	<i>Old</i>	<i>New</i>
Male or female under 16 years of age	\$.15	\$.18
Female 16 years of age and over	.22	.27
Male 16 years of age and over	.34	.40

Wages Board (Bridgetown Shop Assistants) (Amendment) Decisions, 1952, No. 2, which were approved on 26th June, 1952, and which bring the holiday with pay provisions for shop assistants in Bridgetown formally in line with the Holidays with Pay Act, 1951.

No labour legislation was enacted during the year 1953.

SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE

The first Factories Act came into operation on 15th May, 1952. Actual inspection of factories commenced in April, a few weeks earlier.

Safety

In the sugar factories (sugar manufacturing is the only major manufacturing industry) when the Act came into force, the potential dangers from unfenced cane engine flywheels and transmission machinery were considerable. By the end of 1952 safeguards had been provided for much of this dangerous machinery. The type of fencing most favoured for engine flywheels and transmission machinery is rail fencing supplemented by local guards, such as expanded metal guards, for such places as are approached by the worker in the course of his duties, e.g. oiling and greasing while the machinery is in motion. Supplementary guards may also be required for the rail fencing provided around flywheels of some cane engines where the fencing is unavoidably too near to the wheel or is too low. Spindles of centrifugal machines are dangerous; but, so far, owing to practical difficulties no satisfactory guards have been provided. Considerable progress has been made in safeguarding flywheels and projecting crank shaft ends on internal combustion engines. These were without protection when inspection started, but most have now been fenced. The type of guard most favoured is made of stout woodwork which encloses the flywheel except for a central opening for the projecting shaft end; and a supplementary box type of guard for the shaft end which can be removed when starting up the engine.

There are very few dangerous machines in the Island. Specialised guards, such as are normally required for the feeding space of hand-fed platen printing machines, are difficult to get, and even if they are obtained there is not always the staff available to fit the guard and to see that it is properly maintained.

Health

On the whole there is a fair measure of compliance with the requirements of the Act. Except in a few cases where the walls and ceilings required whitewashing, factories were found reasonably clean. No

case of overcrowding was found. With very few exceptions, factory buildings are constructed with plenty of permanent openings to meet the needs of tropical conditions and they ensure free circulation of fresh air for the workers. There are no processes used which give rise to dust or harmful fumes.

Welfare

Factories are not large and there seems no need at present for much more than a proper first-aid box or cupboard, a supply of wholesome drinking water, suitable washing facilities and, where the work is dirty or dusty, a shower bath. Accommodation for clothing put off during working hours could usefully be considered for the larger factories.

The Department was notified of injuries to 637 workmen (including eight deaths) in 1952, compared with 537 notifications (including one death) in 1953. Compensation of \$20,662 was paid in 1952, and \$11,230 in 1953.

INDUSTRIAL TRAINING

A special committee appointed by the Governor reported in 1952 on the recommendations made by the Vocational and Technical Committee in 1949. As a result provision was made in the Five-Year Plan of Development and Taxation for the erection of a building for use as a technical college and for the cost of equipment.

The Board of Industrial Training continued to provide bursaries for the training of apprentices under a five-year course in mechanical building and other trades. At the end of 1952, 162 persons were undergoing training and 21 had completed their courses. At the end of 1953 170 persons were undergoing training and 17 had completed their courses.

The Barbados Evening Institute continued to provide training in a variety of subjects. One thousand three hundred and thirty-five students received instruction during 1952, compared with 1,626 students in 1953.

The Government Housecraft Centre, under the direction of the Education Department, continued to provide training for a number of girls and young women in practical domestic science. For the first time in 1952 a City and Guilds Course in Domestic Science was inaugurated. Eight hundred and twenty-eight women were trained during 1952 and 407 during 1953.

The Girls' Industrial Union (established in 1912) continued to provide training for working girls in a number of crafts such as basket-work, cake making, artificial flower making, etc.

Chapter 3: Public Finance and Taxation

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE

Total revenue and expenditure for the years 1951-52, 1952-53 and 1953-54 were as follows :

		<i>Revenue</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>
		\$	\$
1951-52	—	13,181,295	11,010,420
1952-53	—	13,757,830	11,423,910
1953-54*	—	14,155,478	12,543,583

*Revised Estimate.

The main heads of revenue for the years 1951-52, 1952-53 and 1953-54 were as follows :

<i>Head</i>	<i>1951-52</i>	<i>1952-53</i>	<i>1953-54</i> (<i>Revised Estimate</i>)
	\$	\$	\$
Customs and Excise	6,683,572	5,965,974	6,275,000
Taxation	4,867,783	6,056,197	6,083,500
Licences	144,782	126,767	132,923
Fines	16,567	10,748	15,800
Rents and Royalties	46,333	67,497	69,350
Interest and Redemption . .	71,364	87,204	104,542
Net Revenue from Govern- ment Commercial under- takings	54,594	70,582	30,000
Revenue from Government Department and Services	1,253,370	1,303,340	1,353,288
Special Receipts	42,930	69,521	91,075

The main heads of expenditure for the three years were as follows :

<i>Head</i>	<i>1951-52</i>	<i>1952-53</i>	<i>1953-54</i> (<i>Revised Estimate</i>)
	\$	\$	\$
Governor	37,926	41,667	44,222
Colonial Secretary	63,119	82,535	86,998
Accountant General	67,600	26,497	31,268
Auditor General	32,542	38,240	41,392
Harbour Master	65,974	111,506	114,072
Customs	203,150	215,694	258,942
Powder Magazine	570	723	940
Legal	—	—	27,133
Public Market	28,910	37,509	38,527
Fire Brigade	38,675	45,537	48,678

BARBADOS

<i>Head</i>	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54 (Revised Estimate)
	\$	\$	\$
Lighthouses	12,820	14,267	16,672
Registration Office	32,240	36,286	40,982
Legislature	59,608	72,258	78,224
Judiciary	161,535	190,615	178,160
Police	738,087	856,010	884,866
Prisons	101,140	114,895	115,755
Government Industrial			
Schools	48,746	53,829	58,080
Ecclesiastical	93,555	110,399	111,000
Education	1,774,384	1,974,705	2,237,152
Agriculture	283,392	483,615	589,590
Public Library	29,372	34,178	36,493
Medical Departments	1,175,830	1,370,221	1,580,208
Barbados Regiment	66,892	73,584	79,427
Public Works	174,420	211,229	229,689
Pensions	503,865	564,030	589,013
Charges of Debt	158,140	168,869	188,161
Subsidies and Grants	269,267	348,540	384,674
Miscellaneous Services	831,363	431,034	759,337
Income Tax	241,191	230,181	248,238
Labour Department	266,929	174,658	180,504
Highways and Transport	661,278	810,989	1,002,170
Airport	60,324	75,562	85,583
Electrical Inspection	17,493	14,490	24,585
Housing Board	20,870	27,109	33,900
Peasants' Loan Bank	24,810	38,400	42,547
Old Age Pensions	492,135	494,734	510,540
Waterworks Department	618,524	693,323	753,081
Social Welfare Office	12,131	14,937	22,709
Controls and Subsidies	1,141,613	891,055	531,071
Contributions from Revenue	400,000	250,000	250,000

Capital expenditure in 1951-52 and 1952-53 was as follows :

<i>Head</i>	1951-52	1952-53
	\$	\$
Public Buildings	242,879	126,530
Housing	207,988	142,340
Roads	189,836	127,671
Water Supplies	347,786	574,759
Loans	20,494	47,858
Miscellaneous	298,788	255,306
Special Expenditure	—	—
Colonial Development and Welfare	438,893	47,887
	<u>1,746,664</u>	<u>1,322,351</u>

PUBLIC DEBT

The public debt at 31st December, 1953 was \$3,405,728, the sinking funds on that date being \$1,630,462, leaving a net public debt of \$1,775,266, compared with a public debt of \$2,905,728, sinking funds of \$1,407,214 and a net public debt of \$1,498,514 on 31st December, 1951. Details of loans are as follows :

<i>Loan and Amount</i>	<i>Amount out- standing</i>	<i>Sinking fund at 31st Dec- ember, 1953 at cost</i>	<i>Date Re- deemable</i>	<i>Rate of Interest</i>
	\$	\$		
Public Loan Act, 1914 and the Reimburse- ment Act, 1914— \$1,195,200 . . .	177,600	168,591.46	\$148,800—1961 \$ 28,800—1963	\$52,800 at 4% \$28,800 at 4½% \$96,000 at 5%
General Local Loan Act, 1933, & Public Loans (Redemption) Act, 1933—\$676,416	676,416	467,481.40	1964	3½% per annum
Waterworks Loan Act, 1935—\$746,400 . .	746,400	467,212.88	1961	3% „ „
Education Loan Act, 1935—\$397,872 . .	397,872	166,466.70	1966	3½% „ „
Waterworks Loan Act, 1941—\$169,920 . .	169,920	71,115.44	1966	3½% „ „
Local Loan Act, 1941—\$326,400 . .	326,400	136,552.20	1966	\$321,600 at 3½% \$ 4,800 at 3%
Public Loans (Redemp- tion) Act, 1942— \$411,120 . . .	411,120	149,290.26	1978	3¼% per annum
Local Loan Act, 1953— \$500,000 . . .	\$500,000	3,751.74	1988	4½% per annum
	<u>\$3,405,728</u>	<u>1,630,462.08</u>		

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

Assets and liabilities at 31st March, 1953 were :

<i>Liabilities</i>	\$
Special Funds	1,814,879
Miscellaneous Funds not applicable to General Revenue but included in Treasury Cash	3,115,402
Revenue Equalisation Fund	2,402,397
General Revenue Balance	5,770,933
	<u>\$13,103,611</u>

Assets

	\$
Cash in Treasury	67,079
Cash in Banks	5,256,495
Due by Crown Agents	3,848,427
Advances	660,339
Other Accounts Receivable	515,194
Advances to be subsequently refunded from Loan Funds (1948-53)	912,399
Advances to be subsequently refunded from Loan Funds—Colonial Development and Welfare	28,800
Investments (market value at 31st March, 1953)	1,814,878
	\$13,103,611

MAIN HEADS OF TAXATION

Customs Tariff

Specific rates of duty are imposed whenever practicable though, in view of the Island's dependence upon imported food, the duty on food-stuffs is low, especially on the main commodities.

During 1952 exemption from duty was granted to certain items of food, namely, cattle and animal foods, flour, salted pork imported from British Commonwealth countries, and a reduction of the rate was granted when imported from other sources.

Ad valorem duties range from 1 per cent preferential to 32 per cent general, but on most articles the rates are 10 per cent preferential and 20 per cent general. All rates, both specific and *ad valorem*, are subject to a surtax of 20 per cent except those on articles named in the Trade Agreement of 1938 between the United Kingdom and the United States of America. *Ad valorem* duty is assessed on the c.i.f. cost of the goods, i.e., the value at the time of importation, including insurance and freight. This method of assessment came into operation during 1952; previously the *ad valorem* duty was assessed on the factory cost of the item.

Exemption from payment of customs' duties is allowed on machinery and apparatus imported for use in the manufacture of sugar, rum, cotton, tobacco, etc., and for irrigating agricultural lands. Exemption is also granted to fishing tackle and machinery and apparatus for the manufacture of cotton yarn and cotton goods from cotton yarn. The 1947 Act enabling the importation free of duty of articles manufactured from Sea Island cotton grown in the British West Indies was extended for another year in 1953. Fresh fruit, firewood, charcoal, coconuts, lemon and lime juice, which are imported mainly from neighbouring islands, are also exempted from duty.

The baggage, personal and household effects of consuls and consular officers and of public officers appointed or transferred in the service of the Crown are admitted duty free.

Household effects, not exceeding \$600 for any one family, which are imported for personal use and not for sale or exchange, and are proved to the satisfaction of the Comptroller of Customs to have been in the use of the passenger for at least one year prior to importation are also admitted free of duty.

In 1951 the Pioneer Industries (Encouragement) Act was passed. This Act sought to encourage the establishment and development of new industries and to make provision for the granting of certain relief from package tax, customs duty and income tax to persons establishing factories in connection with such industries.

*Yield from Customs Duties**

	1952	1953
Import Duty	\$3,714,569	\$3,533,347
Surtax	\$431,036	\$377,374

Excise

The excise duty on rum was increased in 1952 from \$2.54 to \$3.90 per proof wine gallon. In addition there is a distiller's licence fee of 4 cents per gallon on all rum distilled.

The excise duty on beer is 12 cents per gallon of wort of a specific gravity of 1050 degrees.

These are the only items on which excise duty is paid.

*Yield from Excise Duties**

	1952	1953
On Rum	\$1,050,471	\$1,419,481
On Beer	\$1,051	\$166

Stamp Duties

Stamp duties are imposed under the Stamp Act, 1916. Duty is charged on specific instruments set out in a schedule to the Act. The Registrar is appointed adjudicator to decide the amount of any duty to be charged, with an appeal lying to the Chief Judge of the Court of Common Pleas. In certain cases unstamped or insufficiently stamped instruments may be stamped after execution on payment of the full duty and a penalty of \$24. The penalty may be remitted by the Governor-in-Executive Committee.

Stamp duty (12 cents) is required on any agreement or memorandum of agreement above a value of \$24 except for an agreement of wages or the purchase of goods, wares and merchandise. The rate of stamp duty for appraisements or valuation of property varies from 6 cents to \$4.80 depending on the value of the property. The stamp duty on cheques, receipts of \$9.60 or more, and bills of exchange payable on demand is 2 cents.

* Calendar Year.

Other more important stamp duties are :

	\$	c.
Bond for payment of money not exceeding \$240	.60	
Bond over \$240 and not exceeding \$480	1.20	
Bond for each additional \$480 or part	.60	
Bond of indemnity	2.40	
Transfer of real or personal property depending on value	.60 per	\$120
Deeds not otherwise described depending on value	1.20 to	2.40
Lease at \$48-\$96	.48	
rising to \$720-\$960	4.80	
and for each additional \$240 or part	1.20	
Marriage Licence	.48	
Mortgage, bond, debenture, covenant, bill of sale, judgment obtained or confessed	.72 per	\$240
Affidavits and other notarial acts	.24	
Life Insurance Policy	.24 per	\$480
Power of Attorney not under Seal	.60	
Power of Attorney under Seal	2.40	
Appointment or discharge of a trustee	2.40	

Income Tax

The income charged is the income of the year preceding the year of assessment.

The personal allowance for a married man is \$1,200 and for any other individual \$720. The allowance for each child is \$240. A maximum of \$240 is allowed for each dependent relative, not exceeding two. Deductions are allowed for life insurance premiums not exceeding one-sixth of the total income or 7 per cent of the capital sum assured on death, whichever is less. The limit of \$960 has been removed but the amount by which the tax may be reduced through the allowance is now limited to 24 per cent of the deductions. The taxpayer, however, is entitled to an allowance for premiums paid in respect of policies maintained prior to 1st January, 1953, not exceeding \$960 if the tax advantage is greater than that under the limit of 24 per cent of premiums paid in respect of all policies.

The rate of tax on life assurance companies is the average of the rate applicable to an individual whose taxable income is \$4,800. The rate of tax on other companies was 37½ per cent in respect of 1952 and 40 per cent in respect of 1953.

There are reciprocal agreements with certain Commonwealth countries for relief from double taxation.

Three tables are set out below. Table I shows the rates of tax payable by individuals, Table II shows the incidence of tax on individuals at varying income levels and Table III gives the yield of tax for the last four financial years.

TABLE I

Rate of Tax payable by Individuals

<i>Scale</i>		<i>Taxable Income \$</i>	<i>Total Tax \$</i>
On every complete dollar of taxable income up to \$500 3%	3% on	500	15
On every complete dollar of taxable income for the next \$500 6%	6% to	1,000	45
On every complete dollar of taxable income for the next \$1,000 12%	12% to	2,000	165
On every complete dollar of taxable income for the next \$1,000 18%	18% to	3,000	345
On every complete dollar of taxable income for the next \$1,000 24%	24% to	4,000	585
On every complete dollar of taxable income for the next \$1,000 30%	30% to	5,000	885
On every complete dollar of taxable income for the next \$3,000 40%	40% to	8,000	2,085
On every complete dollar of taxable income for the next \$4,000 50%	50% to	12,000	4,085
On every complete dollar of taxable income for the next \$6,000 60%	60% to	18,000	7,685
On every complete dollar of taxable income for the next \$6,000 70%, thereafter 75%	70% to 75% thereafter	24,000	11,885

TABLE II

Incidence of Tax on Individuals at 1953 Rates and Allowances

<i>Income</i>	<i>Single Person</i>	<i>Married Man</i>	<i>Married man with 2 children</i>
\$	\$	\$	\$
1,000	8	Nil	Nil
2,000	79	33	10
3,000	215	141	83
4,000	412	309	223
5,000	669	537	422
6,000	997	825	681
7,000	1,397	1,205	1,013
8,000	1,797	1,605	1,413
9,000	2,225	2,005	1,813
10,000	2,725	2,485	2,245
12,000	3,725	3,485	3,245
15,000	5,453	5,165	4,877
20,000	8,581	8,245	7,909
25,000	12,095	11,745	11,409
30,000	15,845	15,485	15,125
40,000	23,345	22,985	22,625
50,000	30,845	30,485	30,125

TABLE III

Yield of Income Tax

<i>1950-51</i>	<i>1951-52</i>	<i>1952-53</i>	<i>1953-54 (Estimate)</i>
\$	\$	\$	\$
3,675,740	4,435,875	5,668,645	5,370,000

Estate and Succession Duties

Estate and succession duties are payable upon property passing on death at the following rates :

<i>Where the principal value of the Estate</i>				<i>Estate duty shall be payable at the rate per cent of</i>	
Exceeds \$	4,800 and does not exceed	\$	14,400	..	\$
	14,400	"	"	"	1
	36,000	"	"	"	2
	60,000	"	"	"	3
	72,000	"	"	"	4
	96,000	"	"	"	5
	120,000	"	"	"	6
	144,000	"	"	"	7
	168,000	"	"	"	8
	192,000	"	"	"	9
	216,000	"	"	"	10
	240,000	"	"	"	11
	288,000	"	"	"	12
	336,000	"	"	"	13
	360,000	"	"	"	14
	384,000	"	"	"	15
	432,000	"	"	"	16
	480,000	"	"	"	17
	600,000	"	"	"	18
	720,000	"	"	"	19
	840,000	"	"	"	20
	960,000	"	"	"	21
	1,080,000	"	"	"	22
	1,200,000	"	"	"	23
	1,320,000	"	"	"	24
	1,440,000	"	"	"	25
	1,560,000	"	"	"	26
	1,680,000	"	"	"	27
	1,800,000	"	"	"	28
	1,920,000	"	"	"	29
	..	..	..	..	30

	Where the Successor is		
	(i) A husband, a lineal descendant or ancestor of the predecessor	(ii) A brother or sister or their descendants of the predecessor	(iii) A person in any other degree or stranger in blood to the predecessor
Where the value of any Succession Exceeds \$ 96 but does not exceed \$ 2,400	$\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.	1 per cent.	2 per cent.
Exceeds \$ 2,400 " " " " " 4,800	1 " "	2 " "	3 " "
4,800 " " " " " 9,600	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ " "	3 " "	4 " "
9,600 " " " " " 14,400	2 " "	4 " "	5 " "
14,400 " " " " " 24,000	2 " "	4 " "	6 " "
24,000 " " " " " 33,600	2 " "	5 " "	8 " "
33,600 " " " " " 48,000	2 " "	6 " "	9 " "
48,000	2 " "	6 " "	10 " "

Relief in the case of quick successions to land or a business is allowed at the following rates :

Where the second death occurs within one year of the first death										75%
"	"	"	"	"	"	two	years	"	"	60%
"	"	"	"	"	"	three	"	"	"	45%
"	"	"	"	"	"	four	"	"	"	30%
"	"	"	"	"	"	five	"	"	"	15%

The yield for the last four financial years is as follows :

Year	Estate Duty	Succession Duty	Interest	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$
1949-50	118,725	47,496	1,405	167,626
1950-51	68,022	40,785	2,948	111,755
1951-52	202,958	87,847	502	291,307
1952-53	185,577	54,003	867	240,447

Entertainment Tax

Entertainment tax was imposed in 1953 on the following forms of entertainment :

1. Cinematograph films, including inflammable and non-inflammable films, silent films and phone films.
2. Barbados Turf Club Race Meetings.
3. Intercolonial and Test Cricket Matches, and other cricket matches where one of the teams is from without the Island.
4. Intercolonial Football Matches, and other football matches where one of the teams is from without the Island.
5. Intercolonial Tennis Matches and other tennis matches where one of the teams is from without the Island.
6. The Annual Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition.
7. Theatrical performances and stage plays.
8. Fêtes, fairs, bazaars and circuses.
9. Professional boxing matches.
10. Intercolonial Athletic and Cycle Sports.

The tax is charged at the rate of 10 per cent on payments for admission. Exemption is granted if the whole of the profits of the entertainment are to be devoted to charitable purposes. The yield from 1st April to 31st December, 1953, was \$27,315.

Other Taxation

The other principal taxes are the package tax and tax on motor spirit and diesel fuel used in road vehicles.

The yield from these taxes was as follows :

	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54 (Estimate)
	\$	\$	\$
Package Tax . . .	210,848	164,255	165,000
Tax on Motor Spirit and Diesel Fuel . . .	723,934	808,673	753,000

The package tax is levied under the Package Tax Act, 1941, by which a levy of 12 cents is made on every parcel of goods, wares and merchandise imported into the Island or taken out of bond for consumption in the Island. There are certain exemptions. Goods and merchandise arriving in bulk are also subject to package tax in accordance with a Schedule which sets out the amount of the article that is deemed to be a package, for example, every 5 cwt. of machinery is considered one package and every 500 superficial feet of one inch thickness or less of timber. This tax is collected by the Customs or, if the package arrives by post, by the Post Office.

The tax on motor spirit is 26½ cents per wine gallon and is collected from the importer.

Chapter 4: Currency and Banking

CURRENCY

The Currency Act of 1950 was passed as a result of an Agreement between the Governments of Barbados, British Guiana, the Leeward Islands, Trinidad and Tobago and the Windward Islands setting up a Board of Commissioners of Currency, British Caribbean Territories (Eastern Group). The notes of this unified currency were first issued on 1st August, 1951, and the notes issued by the Barbados Government were gradually withdrawn from that date. The note issue powers of certain banks were also withdrawn.

The new currency notes are \$1, \$2, \$5, \$10, \$20 and \$100. British coin is legal tender. Government accounts are kept in dollars.

The West Indian dollar is fixed at 4s. 2d., that is \$4.80 to £1 sterling.

The total issue of notes at 31st December, 1953 amounted to \$4,802,840 in the following denominations and amounts :

<i>Denomination</i>	<i>Barbados Government</i>		<i>Currency Board Eastern Caribbean</i>	
\$	No.	\$	No.	\$
1.00	52,253	52,253	803,762	803,762
2.00	4,882	9,764	131,514	263,028
5.00	16,794	83,970	406,508	2,032,540
10.00	—	—	45,067	450,670
20.00	866	17,320	50,415	1,008,300
100.00	196	19,600	8,582	858,200
		182,907		5,416,500

BANKING

Commercial Banks

There are three overseas banks operating in the Colony—Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas), the Royal Bank of Canada and the Canadian Bank of Commerce.

Government Savings Bank

In addition to the commercial banks there is a Government Savings Bank, in which, at the end of June, 1953, it is estimated that there were 44,073 depositors, 773 more than in 1951; the total sum to their credit was \$12,317,695.61, an increase of \$1,235,695.61 compared with 1951. The market value of invested funds is \$11,956,593. The rate of interest on deposits is 3 per cent a year. Since April, 1953, there has been a limit of \$1,440 on new deposits.

Peasants' Loan Bank

The Peasants' Loan Bank was established in 1937 with a capital of \$480,000 to be advanced from the Public Treasury as the bank from time to time might require. The Bank makes loans for various agricultural purposes, such as irrigation and the purchase of livestock and manures, to enable peasant proprietors to bring back into cultivation holdings abandoned through lack of capital. A peasant proprietor is defined as one who owns 10 acres or less. The bank is a body corporate. It is controlled by a board of five directors appointed as follows: the Director of Agriculture appointed by the Governor, one member appointed sessionally by the Legislative Council, two members appointed sessionally by the House of Assembly and one member appointed by the Agricultural Society of the Island. The accounts of the bank are audited by the Auditor General, and a copy of his report is forwarded to the Governor and published in the Official Gazette. During the period 1st June, 1951 to 31st May, 1952 loans were made amounting to \$56,822 to 672 persons, and for the same period in 1952-53 loans amounting to \$69,116 were made to 719 persons.

Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank

The Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank was established in 1907 with a grant of \$384,000 made by the Imperial Treasury in order to assist the sugar industry of the Colony. The Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank Act, 1907, was replaced by the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank Act of 1943 in order that loans might be made to sugar factories in the same way as the previous Act authorised loans for sugar plantations and sugar cultivation.

The net profit for the financial year 1951-52 amounted to \$30,014 and for 1952-53 to \$33,767.

Barbados Co-operative Bank Limited

The Barbados Co-operative Bank Limited is a privately owned bank incorporated in 1938, with a registered capital of \$240,000. The number of depositors at the end of the financial year 1953-54 (28th February) was 20,808 and the balance to the credit of depositors was \$713,479, compared with 20,684 depositors and \$765,446 credit balance in 1952-53.

Chapter 5: Commerce

	1951	1952	1953
	\$	\$	\$
Total Imports (c.i.f.) . . .	51,893,717	54,193,918	45,524,335
Total Exports (f.o.b.) . . .	35,464,166	39,950,062	41,135,901
Re-exports	2,512,172	3,049,958	2,986,008
(all figures exclude the value of bullion and specie)			

IMPORTS

The increase in the value of imports in 1952 was due to the increase in the quantity and value of foodstuffs, mainly cattle and animal feeds, and of machinery and apparatus for oil-boring imported from the United States of America. Imports for 1953, however fell sharply, due largely to a falling off in the value of imports such as manufactured goods, iron and steel, paper, textiles and hardware, and a decrease in the quantity and price of animal foods and empty sugar bags.

The quantities and values of the main items imported in 1952 and 1953 are set out below :

Item	Unit	1952		1953	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
			\$		\$
Beer, Ale, etc.	gall.	264,376	548,962	234,045	473,853
Animal Foods	lb.	30,999,561	2,548,968	25,600,364	1,797,235
Rice	lb.	16,913,708	1,860,508	21,378,084	2,387,727
Flour	lb.	23,892,008	2,194,164	20,982,780	1,919,037
Pork, salted	lb.	4,384,360	1,096,091	3,173,306	666,771
Milk	lb.	2,590,349	777,105	3,207,745	969,270
Lumber	ft.	5,962,083	1,344,316	8,160,344	1,613,760
Bags and Sacks, empty	No.	2,660,906	2,234,132	1,017,050	430,498
Cotton Piece-Goods	sq. yd.	2,448,049	1,622,646	2,368,077	1,223,009
Cotton Manufactures—other kinds	val.	—	1,095,122	—	1,092,730
Art. Silk Piece-Goods	sq. yd.	1,882,934	1,524,284	1,710,651	1,195,525
Electrical Apparatus—all kinds		—	965,547	—	684,068
Hardware		—	1,145,448	—	619,516
Machinery		—	3,600,142	—	2,838,740
Manures and Fertilizers	tons	13,769	1,622,440	11,832	1,264,522
Motor Cars and Trucks	no.	616	1,409,078	450	834,453
Boots and Shoes	pairs	281,665	899,338	321,705	1,036,528
Iron and Steel Manufactures		—	1,415,355	—	1,149,047
Paper Manufactures—all kinds		—	1,238,459	—	776,711

The value of goods from the United Kingdom fell from \$23,554,540 in 1951 to \$21,932,632 in 1952 and to \$18,555,632 in 1953, owing to decreased imports of manufactured goods.

Imports from Canada decreased from \$8,374,894 in 1951 to \$8,199,569 in 1952 and to \$7,659,305 in 1953; this was mainly due to the importation of smaller quantities of flour which was replaced by larger imports of rice.

Imports from other Commonwealth countries—chiefly butter, cheese and meat from Australia and New Zealand, petroleum from Trinidad, sugar bags from India and rice from British Guiana—rose from \$9,929,249 in 1951 to \$13,044,406 in 1952 and fell off to \$9,934,720 in 1953. These movements reflect, among others, changes resulting from a steady increase of rice imports and a decline of sugar bag imports.

Imports from the United States of America were worth \$2,834,877 in 1951, \$4,482,334 in 1952 and \$3,283,396 in 1953. If account is taken of the unnatural increase in 1952 owing to the import of oil-drilling machinery, the figures show a steady expansion of imports from the United States.

The following table shows the principal sources of imports by percentage of total value :

	1951 %	1952 %	1953 %
United Kingdom	45.4	40.5	40.8
Canada	16.1	15.1	16.8
Other Parts of the British Commonwealth	19.1	24.1	21.8
United States of America	5.5	8.3	7.2
Other Foreign Countries	13.9	12.0	13.4

EXPORTS

The increase in the value of exports was due mainly to the continued rise in the price paid by the United Kingdom for sugar.

The quantities and values of the main exports in 1952 and 1953 were as follows :

Item	Unit	1952		1953	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Sugar	tons	145,472	\$ 26,064,160	138,151	\$ 27,014,106
Molasses*	gallons	8,323,204	5,388,414	8,273,386	5,091,674
Rum	gallons	780,686	1,770,203	660,728	1,752,607
Soap	lb.	758,330	157,716	806,797	163,692
Margarine	lb.	861,898	349,068	1,173,624	481,583
Edible Oil	gallons	84,767	190,726	43,876	96,499
Cotton Lint	lb.	9,554	14,331	19,480	22,864

* In 1952 exports of molasses comprised choice molasses (a by-product of Muscovado sugar manufacture) 67,989 wine gallons; fancy molasses 3,449,423 wine gallons; vacuum pan molasses 4,805,483 wine gallons; and bottoms 309 wine gallons. In 1953 exports of fancy molasses were 4,301,009 wine gallons and vacuum pan molasses 3,856,674 wine gallons.

The main increases over 1951 were : Sugar to the United Kingdom \$2,191,509 and to Canada \$443,228 ; Molasses to the United Kingdom \$1,223,091. Decreases were shown in Molasses to Canada \$2,017,248 and to the United States of America \$513,476 ; Rum to the United Kingdom \$309,466 and to Canada \$9,479.

Increases over 1952 were : Sugar to the United Kingdom \$11,524,849 ; Molasses to Canada \$106,401 and to the United States of America \$626,380 ; Rum to Commonwealth countries other than the United Kingdom \$215,661. Decreases were : Sugar to Canada \$10,145,946 ; Molasses to the United Kingdom \$988,847 ; Rum to the United Kingdom \$207,557.

The following table shows the principal destinations of exports by percentage of the total value.

	1951 %	1952 %	1953 %
United Kingdom . . .	39·5	49·4	73·5
Canada	45·0	36·0	10·6
Other Parts of the British Commonwealth . . .	11·6	12·6	12·2
United States of America . .	2·4	0·6	2·3
Other Foreign Countries . .	1·0	0·9	0·8
Bunkers and Stores . . .	0·5	0·5	0·6

GENERAL

The prosperity of the Island depends on the sugar crop and the prices paid for sugar and its by-products.

Large imports of foodstuffs and lumber are essential to an Island which lacks the space for growing adequate food crops ; although ground provisions are grown, it is not possible to produce the items which constitute the staple diet of the people—flour, rice and salted pork. The Island has no timber so that lumber has to be imported for building. Machinery is necessary for the sugar industry.

The visible adverse balance of trade was \$14,243,856 in 1952 and \$4,388,434 in 1953. An adverse balance has been an invariable feature of the trade of the Island and is in part offset by interest received on capital investments abroad, remittances from Barbadians who have settled overseas, and by tourist traffic.

Chapter 6: Production

LAND UTILISATION AND TENURE

The total area of Barbados is approximately 106,500 acres. It is estimated that 94,346 acres are agricultural land (including arable and pasture) in small holdings and plantations. The remaining area is rock outcrops, coastland, urban and residential areas.

All arable land has been farmed as plantations for generations and has been owned by the occupiers or worked by local attorneys on behalf of absentee proprietors. During the past half century several plant-

ations have been cut up into small holdings and sold. It is estimated that of the 94,346 acres of agricultural land, the plantations occupy approximately 77,000 acres and the small holdings the remainder. Under the plantation system some 52,000 acres are cultivated and 15,000 acres are thin or marginal lands under permanent grass.

The system of agriculture in general practice has tended to conserve the soil in the coralline limestone areas and to prevent serious erosion. More effective soil preservation methods are being sought by trial. The soils of the Scotland District derived from marine deposits have been badly eroded, and measures for the protection of this area are under consideration by the Scotland District Conservation Board.

Natural storage of water is effected on a relatively large scale in the lower sections of the coralline rock cap as it rests on synclinal areas of the impervious geological beds beneath. This water is pumped to the surface for domestic use and small-scale irrigation. Statutory powers have been given to a Water Board under the Underground Water Control Act, 1951, to control the use of the natural water resources.

Almost all land is held by private freehold. A very small area is State-owned. Methods of tenure are by complete purchase, incomplete purchase, under will, heir-at-law, as agent for owner abroad or for deceased owner or otherwise.

AGRICULTURE

Sugar

Sugar cane is grown as the principal crop on all plantations and on nearly all smallholdings. In 1952, 36,239·6 acres of cane were reaped by plantations and an estimated 8,500 acres by small holders, making a total of 44,739 acres ; in 1953, 35,982·5 acres of cane were reaped by plantations and an estimated 10,000 acres by small holders, making a total of 45,982 acres. The actual production of sugar was made up as follows :

	1952	1953
Vacuum pan sugars (tons)	156,215·6	150,498·9
Muscovado ,,	525·2	512·4
Fancy Molasses ,,	11,134·2	9,740·3

The yield of sugar per acre of cane reaped was 3·75 tons in 1952 and 3·49 tons in 1953. The average yield of cane per acre was 33·69 tons in 1952 and 30·00 tons in 1953.

In both years the reaping season was dry and the winds high with the result that the area damaged by cane fires was extensive though the actual number of individual fires was not much greater than in recent years. The position was regarded as sufficiently serious for a committee to be set up to seek means of reducing cane fires, which do serious harm in the conditions of Barbados.

During the period two other factors came to light one of which, at any rate, constituted a serious threat to production. These were the suspected existence of ratoon-stunting virus and the appearance of a

plague of mealy bugs. To deal with the former the Department of Agriculture is instituting methods of sterilisation of cane cuttings. The mealy bug is associated with a certain type of ant and has already done extensive damage, especially to ratoon canes. Insecticides offer the only known means of controlling this serious pest.

No new vacuum pan factory for sugar has been built since 1939 ; on the contrary, nine of those operating have closed. During 1953, 22 vacuum pan factories, one muscovado factory and 8 fancy molasses steam-driven plants made sugar and molasses. There are also 10 rum stills owned by three companies which produce rum at strengths up to 68 per cent proof.

Agricultural Department

The policy of the Department is to conserve the soil and improve soil fertility ; control pests and diseases of crops ; improve crop yields by selection and breeding ; maintain a sound animal husbandry industry as an integral part of the farming system ; develop and improve the fishing industry ; encourage the production of local food crops, especially green vegetables ; stimulate co-operative ventures, particularly among small holders ; develop irrigation in suitable areas.

The Agricultural Department includes the British West Indies Central Sugar Cane Breeding Station, the Government Laboratory, a sugar plantation, a Central Livestock Station and several District Agricultural Stations.

Investigation work is being conducted on the breeding of new varieties of sugar cane, cultivation and manuring, irrigation and the control of pests and diseases. The economics of small holdings are also being investigated as a basis for agricultural extension work among small farmers. Credit facilities to small farmers are available through the Peasants' Loan Bank.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

The number of livestock at the time of the 1946 census was as follows : cattle, 15,050 ; pigs, 24,367 ; sheep, 33,444 ; goats, 16,099. There are also small numbers of mules and donkeys.

Dairying and the possibilities of developing an economic system of animal husbandry are being investigated at the Central Livestock Station. Special attention is being paid to dairying and to the improvement of the Island's stock of milch goats, sheep, pigs and poultry. Stud centres are maintained at the six District Agricultural Stations. An island-wide artificial insemination scheme for cattle is being organised in order to improve the breed and control venereal disease.

Livestock products are consumed locally. The production of ham, bacon and pork sausages is undertaken on a small scale.

The Veterinary Division is a part of the Department of Science and Agriculture.

FORESTRY

There are no forests and consequently no Forestry Department. A small area of 46 acres of original forest is preserved by statute. The

cultivation of trees is being encouraged by tax relief measures under the Cultivation of Trees Act, 1951. Casuarina and mahogany trees are distributed free under this Act provided they are planted in accordance with the specified conditions.

MINERALS

Small quantities of petroleum have been produced in the past, and it was concluded from a geological survey made before the war that new sources of oil might be discovered by deep drilling. A concession to prospect over about half the Island was granted to the Gulf Oil Corporation in 1950. After spending most of 1952 in preparatory surveys, the Corporation began drilling operations at Turner Hall in January, 1953, and by the end of the year a depth of over 11,000 feet had been reached.

There is a well producing natural gas ; its production, sale and distribution are controlled by a statutory corporation, the Natural Gas Corporation.

FISHERIES

Investigations for increasing the catch of fish and measures for the improvement of the fishing industry are being undertaken by the Fisheries Division of the Department of Science and Agriculture. An Advisory Fisheries Committee assists the Department of Agriculture.

Legislation was passed in 1952 to regulate the fishing industry and promote its interest (see page 54). Schemes under operation provide for the maintenance, expansion and development of fisheries production and for the marketing of fish. Additional fish markets have been built at Oistins and Speightstown and beach shelters have been built at several landing places. Channels through the reefs have been widened to facilitate the passage of fishing boats. About 13 million pounds of fish were caught in 1953 with an estimated value of \$1,550,000.

The experimental fisheries boat continues to investigate and demonstrate improved methods of catching fish. Methods already demonstrated have been adopted by the fishing industry with considerable success.

Under the Loan Scheme started in 1943 1,500 loans have been issued, amounting to \$142,000, for building new boats and repairing and maintaining others.

MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

In addition to the factories and plants producing sugar and rum (mentioned on page 33), there are factories manufacturing biscuits, shirts, confectionery, lard and margarine, soap, and wax from sugar residue.

Government Encouragement to Industry

Relief is granted in respect of income tax to encourage pioneer industries. Every pioneer manufacturer is entitled in each of any five years during a period of eight years to set off capital expenditure against income arising from the manufacture of the pioneer product, and every

pioneer manufacturer who is a limited liability company is entitled within two years after the sum is set off to distribute it to the shareholders or debenture holders as capital monies free of income tax.

Handicrafts and Home Industries

During the period under review Mr. and Mrs. Fred Leighton of New York visited all the islands in the British West Indies including Barbados to make recommendations for the improvement of handicrafts. They reported that "Barbados produces little craftwork though there are traditionally fine woodworkers in the Island, and there is a little local basketry of a relatively inferior sort."

In April, 1952, a Minor Handicrafts Development Committee was set up to examine ways and means of developing minor handicrafts and to make detailed recommendations with estimates where necessary for such development.

The Committee held eleven meetings and finally presented a unanimous report to Government in August. It recommended that minor handicrafts should be developed as an alternative to the main industry of sugar and such other industries as may later be developed. As a result, an item of \$50,000 was included in the Five-Year Plan of Development and Taxation.

Chapter 7: Social Services

EDUCATION

Education Department

The central administration of education is vested in the Director of Education. The Education Board, composed of five members appointed by the Governor and with the Director as chairman, is an advisory body.

The established staff of the Department includes a Deputy Director of Education, a Chief Education Inspector and three District Inspectors, Specialist Inspectors of Handicrafts, Domestic Science, Infants' Methods, and Nutrition, a Supervisor and three Assistant Supervisors of Visual Education.

The Principal, Vice-Principal and Woman Tutor of Erdiston Teachers' Training College, the Principal of the Barbados Evening Institute and the Organisers of the Housecraft Centre are also officers of the Department.

Policy

During 1944-45 three important memoranda were prepared by the first Director of Education :

- (1) A Policy for Education.
- (2) The Provision for Secondary Education in Barbados.
- (3) The Evaluation of Education in Barbados.

In 1949 the present Director of Education outlined plans for the integration of the elementary and secondary systems of education.

It is within the framework of these recommendations that educational policy has been developed.

Education at the primary stage in the elementary schools is free but in the preparatory departments of aided secondary schools and in independent schools fees are charged. Secondary education is provided in senior departments of the elementary schools, in the aided secondary schools and in some independent schools. No fees are charged in the elementary schools.

Accommodation at both elementary schools and secondary schools remains below the needs of the Colony; and a long-term building programme is being carried out.

At present there is no compulsory education in the Colony. The current policy aims at providing adequate accommodation and equipment in the schools so that eventually compulsory education may be introduced by stages and by geographical areas for children between the ages of five and 14 years.

Elementary Schools

There are 124 public elementary schools which are entirely maintained by Government funds, supplemented by an annual grant of \$4,920 contributed by the eleven parochial Vestries towards the upkeep and sanitation of school buildings, most of which are owned by Government, although some remain vested in the Anglican, Methodist and Moravian denominations and Vestries.

The local supervision of elementary schools is undertaken by Boards of Managers appointed annually by the Director of Education to advise on local school problems and to assist in the selection of staffs.

At 31st August, 1953, there were 42 schools for boys, 43 for girls and 39 co-educational (including 4 infant schools). There were 32,010 pupils on the roll—16,301 boys and 15,709 girls. The average attendance during the academic year September, 1952—August, 1953 was 23,821 (12,173 boys and 11,648 girls) as against 22,629 (11,485 boys and 11,144 girls) for the year 1951–52. Elementary schools cater for children between the ages of five and 14 years.

There is a nutrition scheme which provides a daily snack of milk and biscuits for each elementary school child. Some medical, dental and optical treatment is also available to pupils. There is no school medical service.

The first two modern secondary schools were opened in September, 1952, at Richmond in the parish of St. Michael, receiving intakes at 11+ from seven primary and junior schools in the parish. In the first year there were 1,500 children enrolled. Practical courses include woodwork, metal-work, book-binding and domestic science. For suitable pupils there is an elementary course in commerce which leads to further training at the Barbados Evening Institute.

The Government Teaching Service consists of 124 head teachers and 683 assistant teachers. All elementary school teachers are civil servants, subject to Colonial Regulations.

Secondary Schools

There are 10 Government-aided secondary schools—three First Grade and seven Second Grade. At 31st August, 1953, the three First Grade schools had an attendance of 1,349 (967 boys and 382 girls). Of these Harrison College (boys) and Queen's College (girls) are day schools situated in the Bridgetown area. Lodge School (boys), in the parish of St. John, is a day school which also has a boarding establishment. These schools prepare candidates for the General Certificate Examinations of the Oxford and Cambridge Board at Scholarship, Advanced and Ordinary Levels in classics, mathematics, science and modern studies. Training in commercial subjects is also provided at Queen's College.

The seven Second Grade schools—three for boys, three for girls, and one co-educational—are situated in St. Michael, Christ Church, St. Andrew, St. Lucy and St. Peter. During 1952-53 they had an attendance of 1,670 pupils (1,029 boys and 641 girls). They prepare candidates mainly for the Ordinary Level General Certificate of the Oxford and Cambridge Board.

At the Coleridge and Parry School (Second Grade) which opened in January, 1952, a course in science with an agricultural bias (approved by the Oxford and Cambridge Board) has been introduced for boys of 13+ and over.

Aided secondary schools are managed by governing bodies who are appointed by the Governor-in-Executive Committee and function under schemes formulated by the Director of Education and approved by the Legislature. Teachers in Government-aided secondary schools are not civil servants.

Independent Schools

There are several private schools for boys and girls, some of which have agreed to inspection by the Department of Education. Some of these schools have been approved for the examinations of the Oxford and Cambridge Board.

The independent schools prepare candidates for the General Certificate Examinations (Oxford and Cambridge and London) and for the London Chamber of Commerce Certificate Examinations.

The Codrington High School for girls in the parish of St. John and the Ursuline Convent in St. Michael are both day and boarding schools.

Exhibitions and Scholarships

Exhibitions and scholarships tenable at aided secondary schools are provided from Government and Vestry funds.

The Government Scholarships and Exhibitions Act (1949) provides annually for five Barbados Scholarships, two Exhibitions tenable at the University College of the West Indies, and two Island Scholarships tenable at Codrington College. The Governor-in-Executive Committee controls the award and tenure of all these scholarships.

Winners of Barbados Scholarships are required to attain a standard equal to that prescribed by the Colleges of the Universities of Oxford

and Cambridge for the award of their open scholarships. The maximum value of the scholarship is \$2,880 (£600) per annum over a period of three to six years. In addition the sum of \$576 (£120) is granted to each scholarship winner to meet travelling and other initial expenses. Barbados scholarships are awarded on the results of the General Certificate Examinations at Advanced and Scholarship Levels of the Oxford and Cambridge Schools Examination Board.

Government Exhibitions at the University College of the West Indies each valued at \$1,080 (£225) per annum are awarded on the results of the university entrance examination. An additional grant not exceeding \$144 (£30) is payable to each exhibitor to meet the cost of the Matriculation Examination and other fees.

Until 1952 two Island Scholarships valued at \$576 (£120) each were awarded annually on the results of an examination set by the authorities of Codrington College in consultation with the Director of Education. In November, 1952, the Board of Management of Codrington College informed Government that the Classical Course at the College would end in 1954.

Training of Teachers

Erdiston Training College, situated at Pine Hill, overlooking Bridgetown, was officially opened in 1948. By the end of the academic session in 1953, 144 elementary school teachers and 15 non-graduate teachers in Government-aided secondary schools had gained certificates of training.

The students of Erdiston College, who are required to have attained Matriculation or School Certificate standard, receive a one-year course of training in modern educational methods. Residential accommodation is provided for 16 men and 16 women students who are selected for each session by the Director of Education in consultation with the Principal of Erdiston College. In addition, four day students from the staffs of aided secondary schools may be admitted annually to the training courses. Proposals for the enlargement of the College and the introduction of a two-year course (one year non-residential) are being considered.

Additional training for teachers is provided during the Easter vacation when the Department of Education organises classes in a wide variety of subjects. During school terms there are regular Saturday classes conducted under the direction of the Department.

Training for serving teachers both in elementary and secondary schools is also provided by the Barbados Evening Institute in academic courses leading to the General Certificates of Education at Ordinary and Advanced Levels and the Diplomas of the College of Preceptors.

Teachers are selected annually for training courses at the Housecraft Centre leading to the examinations in housecraft of the City and Guilds of London Institute.

Under the Five-Year Training Scheme six elementary school teachers were granted scholarships during 1953 for the following courses :

One three-year course in domestic science at the City of Bath Training College.

Two one-year courses in the education of young children at the University of Durham.

Two one-year courses for the professional certificate at the University of London Institute of Education.

One arts degree course at the University College of the West Indies, Jamaica.

Supply of Teachers

Approximately 42 per cent of the head teachers in the Elementary Teaching Service possess a training college certificate. Approximately 26 per cent of the assistant teachers have attended a training college for at least one year.

The recruitment and retention of specialist teachers for the staffs of the aided secondary schools have been difficult, particularly for the teaching of science and mathematics. The implementation during 1952 of the recommendations of the Turner Committee, which resulted in the raising of salaries and the improvement of conditions of service, has assisted in solving some staffing problems, but there remains a considerable leeway to be made up. To assist in raising the proportion of graduates on school staffs, provision for the further training of serving non-graduates was included in the Government Five-Year Training Scheme. To this end bursaries were awarded during 1952-53 to four secondary teachers who are undergoing training at the University College of the West Indies, the University of Puerto Rico and the University of Reading.

Vocational Training

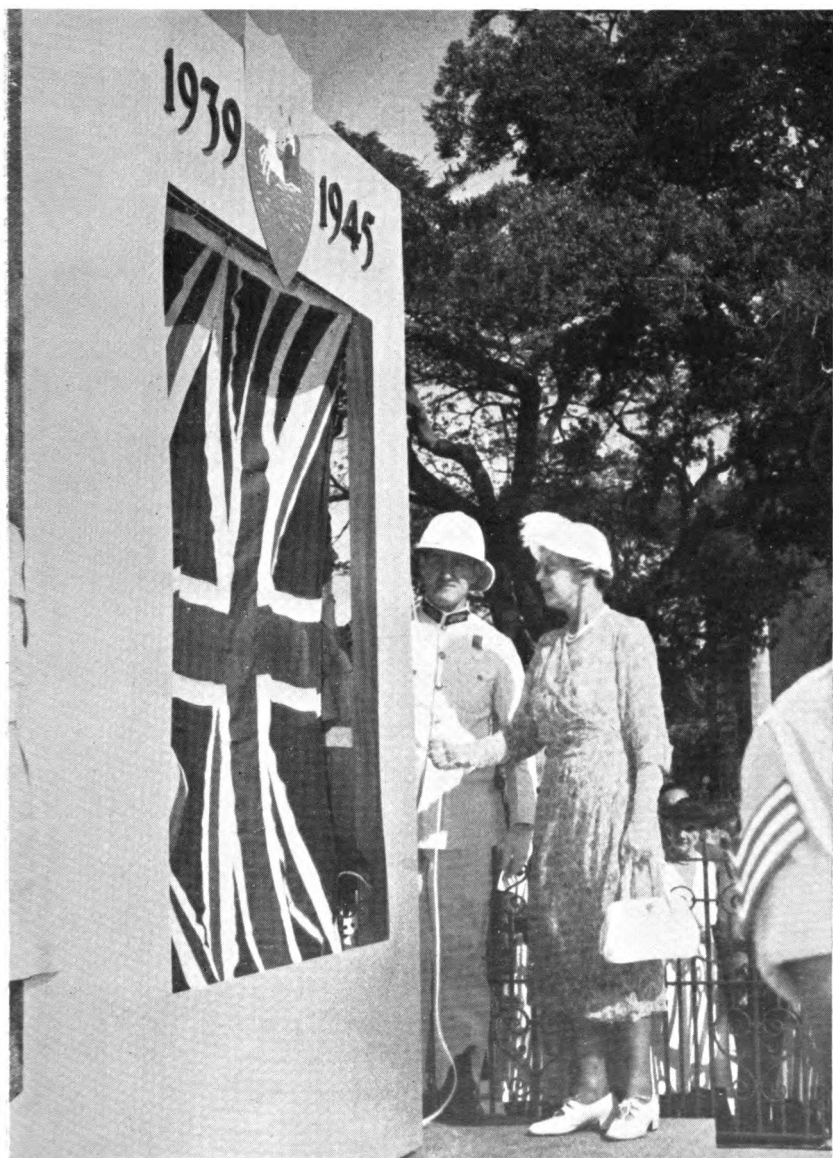
Vocational training is provided by a number of agencies which are either controlled or aided by Government departments.

The Board of Industrial Training under the chairmanship of the Colonial Engineer awards annual bursaries to 48 suitable young men so that they may receive training in various industrial trades. Apprentices are generally drawn from the handicraft classes in the elementary schools. They are placed under control of master workmen who give them a five-year course and present them for examination at the end of each year.

During 1952-53, there were 184 apprentices in training. Journey-men certificates were issued to 20 trainees who had completed courses in carpentry (5), plumbing (2), cabinet-making (1), motor mechanics (1), book-binding (1), painting (1), engineering (6), electricity (2) and tailoring (1). Since the inception of the scheme (1924) 313 apprentices have completed journeyman courses at a cost of \$86,632.

In December, 1953, a committee was appointed by the Governor to investigate the need for improving the existing system of apprenticeship in the Island. The Colonial Engineer was appointed chairman, and the Director of Education and the Principal of the Barbados Institute were appointed members of the committee.

The Department of Science and Agriculture trains peasant agri-



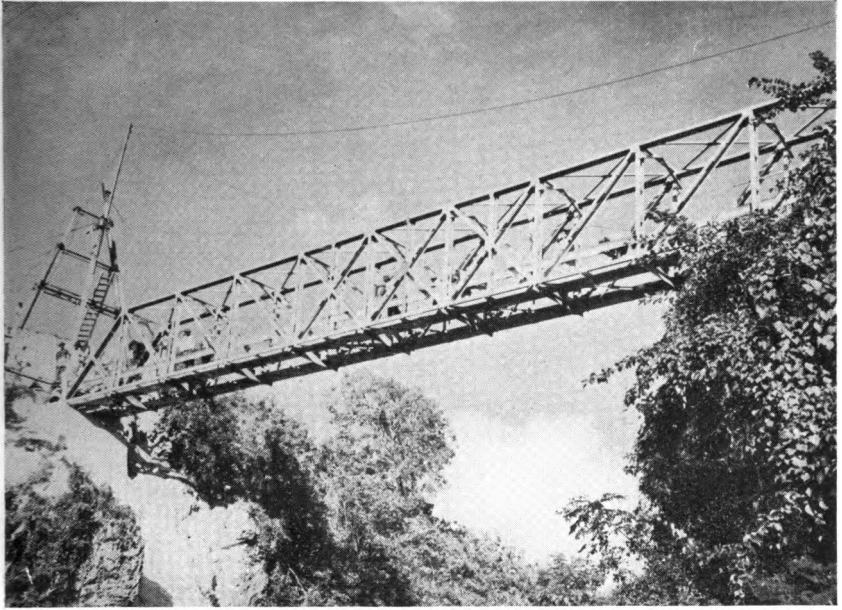
UNVEILING OF THE 1939-45 WAR MEMORIAL IN
TRAFALGAR SQUARE BY H.R.H. THE PRINCESS ROYAL
IN FEBRUARY, 1953



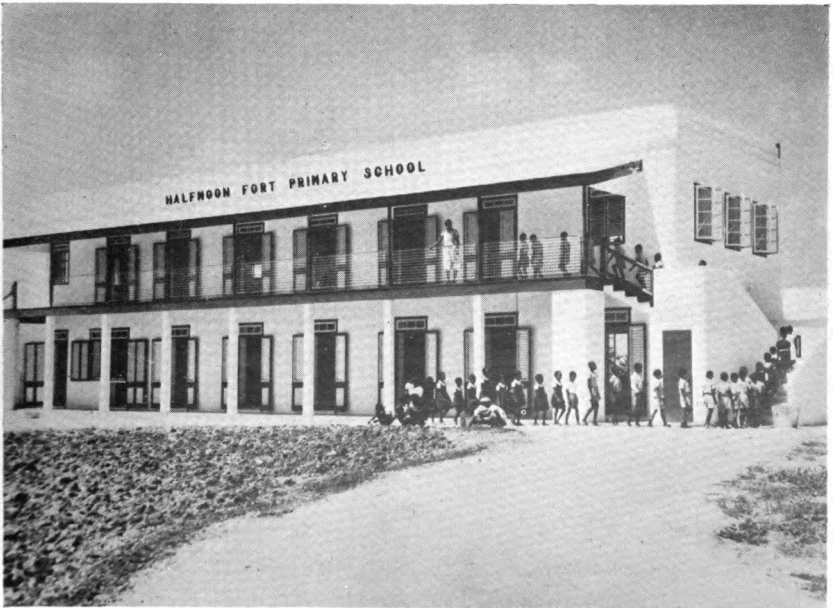
ILLUMINATION OF THE WEST WING OF THE PUBLIC BUILDINGS, BRIDGETOWN DURING THE CORONATION CELEBRATIONS, 1953



SHIPPING FANCY MOLASSES IN PUNCHEONS
A dying industry which is being replaced by bulk shipment



**BRIDGE OVER BELLE GULLY FOR BRIDGETOWN MAIN WATER
SUPPLY PIPE**



HALFMOON FORT SCHOOL



AIDED SELF-HELP HOUSING AT CLINKETTS VILLAGE



**H.R.H. THE PRINCESS ROYAL OPENING A NEW ROAD—
“PRINCESS ROYAL AVENUE”—AT THE PINE HOUSING
ESTATE, ST. MICHAEL. (MR. GRANTLEY ADAMS ON RIGHT)**

cultural instructors and the Department of Medical Services undertakes the training of nurses, sanitary inspectors, and public health visitors, some of whom are trained at overseas centres.

The Housecraft Centre, under the supervision of the Director of Education, continues the training of school leavers and adults in various branches of housecraft (home economics). Classes are also provided for teachers in training at Erdiston College who attend courses in cookery, laundry work, housewifery and needlecraft. Intensive six-month courses of training for elementary teachers in homecraft, which were commenced in September, 1951, were replaced in 1952 by courses leading to the examinations for the Diploma of the City and Guilds of London Institute.

During the academic year 1952-53, 264 students attended day classes and 608 attended evening classes at the Housecraft Centre. Vacation refresher courses were provided for 20 students ; 20 teachers were prepared for the examination of the City and Guilds of London Institute.

Cooking classes and elementary housecraft courses are conducted in the majority of the girls' schools.

During April to August, 1953, Miss E. Haglund, Home Economist of the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations, was attached to the Department of Education, and gave technical advice on the proposed establishment of an Advisory Council on Home Economics, the revision of the curricula in domestic subjects in schools and for training courses, and the preparation of an outline syllabus in home economics for selected domestic science teachers.

The Barbados Evening Institute offers courses for adults in internal combustion engineering and electricity, commercial subjects and domestic science and crafts. The technical classes of the Institute are conducted in close co-operation with the Department of Highways and Transport. In 1952 and 1953 students were prepared by the Institute for examinations of the City and Guilds of London in motor vehicle mechanics' and technicians' work and electrical installation.

Barbados Technical Institute

The general development of technical education and vocational training has been under review by Government since 1946. In March, 1952, a committee under the chairmanship of the Director of Education recommended a more advanced form of technical and vocational training. The sum of \$162,000 was provided for capital expenditure during 1953-54 on technical training.

Construction of the classroom block of the Barbados Technical Institute was begun at Richmond St. Michael in October, 1953, and should be completed early in 1954. It is proposed that courses at the Technical Institute should lead to the examinations of the City and Guilds of London Institute. Accommodation is being provided in order to give 100 apprentices one day's instruction each week.

University Education

Codrington College, founded in 1710 under the will of General Sir Christopher Codrington who was born in Barbados, is administered

by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel. In 1875 Codrington College was affiliated to Durham University. There are several theological scholarships provided by the funds of the College, which now functions mainly as a theological seminary. The discontinuation of the Classical Course at Codrington College in 1954 will bring to an end a tradition which has for generations been an outstanding feature of the educational life of Barbados.

Under the provision of the Government Scholarships and Exhibitions Act, 1949, facilities are available for eligible students to pursue university courses at overseas centres. During the academic year 1952-53 nine Barbados scholars were in residence in the United Kingdom, three in Canada, and three at the University College of the West Indies. There were six Government exhibitioners at the University College of the West Indies.

In 1953 a Higher Education (Loan Fund) Act was passed, providing for the setting up of a committee empowered to lend money to students who are pursuing higher studies.

Adult Education

The Barbados Evening Institute, which is run by the Department of Education, conducts evening classes in Bridgetown in academic, commercial and technical subjects. During 1952-53 the following courses were held:

A two-year course for 49 students in four subjects leading to the London General Certificate of Education at Advanced Level; and one- and two-year courses for 147 students in seven subjects at Ordinary Level. Nineteen lecturers were supplied for these courses. A course preparing teachers for the Diploma of Associate of the College of Preceptors was begun in September, 1952. Twenty students were admitted for instruction in principles of education, history of education, health education and methods. Five lecturers assisted with the work of the course.

Courses in English, shorthand and typing and book-binding. The aggregate roll of all classes was 216 and the total number of individual students attending these classes during 1952-53 was 99. Candidates are prepared for the examination of the London Chamber of Commerce, Pitman's Shorthand Certificate and the Royal Society of Arts Shorthand-Typist's Certificate (Intermediate).

A Class in Spanish for members of the Clerk's Union in preparation for an examination in June, 1954.

At seven rural centres classes were provided in a variety of commercial and vocational subjects.

During 1953 the Institute had 14 centres conducting an aggregate of 2,771 classes for 1,626 students. Ninety-four tutors were employed.

Visual Education

The Department of Education directs training in the use and maintenance of visual aids at Erdiston College. During the Easter vacation,

special courses are organised for teachers at elementary and secondary schools.

The filmstrip is widely used in elementary schools by the travelling Visual Aids Unit. During 1953, the first installation of a filmstrip and rear-projection system was made at an elementary school. Filmstrip projectors are used on a regional basis throughout the Island.

Increasing use is being made of the growing film and filmstrip library by clubs and parent-teacher associations. Two hundred and four locally produced still photographs were also borrowed by teachers during the year.

Extra-Mural Department of the University College of the West Indies

During 1952-53 the Extra-Mural Department continued its programme of adult education in Barbados in association with various groups and societies. The Resident Tutor is assisted by an Extra-Mural Advisory Committee and by the Extra-Mural Students' Association. At the annual Summer School held at Codrington College in August, 1952 an intensive course of lectures was given on various aspects of drama. The programme was supplemented by practical demonstration in stage management, costume and play production.

The Summer School in 1953 was devoted to political theory. The panel of lecturers included Mr. A. Cunningham, Lecturer in History at the University College of the West Indies, and Mr. H. W. Springer, Registrar of the University College.

A special course was conducted during 1952 on "The Child, the Parent and the Teacher." Lecturers taking part in this course included the Educational Adviser to the Comptroller for Development and Welfare in the West Indies and the Social Welfare Advisor.

In addition to courses and single lectures organised at centres in Bridgetown the programme included lectures and discussion groups at various rural centres. The formation of an Extra-Mural Youth Group in Bridgetown added considerably to the strength of the programme.

The British Council

In carrying out its basic function of strengthening cultural ties between the United Kingdom and Barbados, the British Council undertakes varied adult education activities supplementary to the work of the Department of Education and other bodies.

At the Council Headquarters there are a small practice theatre, a reference library, a reading-room well stocked with representative British periodicals, lending libraries of gramophone records, 16 mm. films, filmstrips, play-reading sets, fine art reproductions etc., and a staff ready to advise on the best use of the material. The Council sponsors exhibitions, lectures and recitals, supplies feature articles, book reviews and pictures to the local press.

Film shows to regular weekly audiences at the Council Headquarters and to various groups throughout the Island continued to attract wide interest, 228 performances being given during 1952-53.

The Council's stage lighting equipment was used for practically all dramatic performances. Loans of play-reading sets, records and other material were made to secondary schools which also benefited from the use of the Council's fine art reproductions. The Council's weekly broadcast programme on Barbados Rediffusion was continued.

The Council subsidises further educational work through grants to the Barbados Museum and Historical Society and the Arts and Crafts Section.

Barbados Museum and Historical Society

The Barbados Museum and Historical Society was incorporated by a special Act of the Legislature in 1933. The Government gave the Society a lease for 90 years of the abandoned military prison at St. Ann's Garrison. The Museum, which is one of the best in the British West Indies, possesses valuable collections of books, pictures, models, specimens of birds and fishes. There is also an excellent collection of pottery, axe-heads, and other relics of the Arawaks and a fine collection of Carib stone implements.

In 1953 the Society and Museum celebrated its twentieth anniversary, and observed the centenary of the building which they occupy. To mark these occasions and to honour the Coronation of Her Majesty the Queen a fund was opened to meet the cost of converting a range of cells into a new gallery which will be known as the Coronation Gallery, and will house a collection of furniture, china, silver, glass etc., connected with the Island's history.

During 1952 and 1953 the Society continued the sponsorship of lectures and exhibitions. The Children's Museum, which was formerly operated under a grant from Colonial Development and Welfare funds, was maintained by the Society and provided lectures and classes for more than 9,000 children during the two years. During 1953 the Museum was visited by 4,060 adults and 3,225 children exclusive of persons attending classes, lectures or meetings of the Society.

Public Library

The Public Library in Bridgetown was established by the Public Library Act of 1847. The building in which the Library is at present housed was given by Mr. Andrew Carnegie in 1904.

At 31st August, 1953 there were 56,705 books in stock. The Library service is extended to the more remote parts of the Island by the operation of ten deposit stations. A School Library service for 40 schools was conducted during 1953 with a stock of 2,534 books which were issued to 8,799 borrowers during the year.

The Branch Library at Speightstown caters to residents of the Leeward Parishes. During 1953 the building of a new branch library at Oistins, Christ Church, reached the final stages.

PUBLIC HEALTH

The general health of the population was satisfactory in comparison with previous years. Neither major epidemics nor quarantinable

diseases occurred. Food production and imports were satisfactory and the general level of nutrition was maintained.

	1952	1953
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births . . .	146	139
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births . . .	3.15	3.56

The major causes of death were :

Classification	1952		1953	
	No. of Deaths	% of Total Deaths	No. of Deaths	% of Total Deaths
Early Infancy	630	19.77	615	20.52
Diseases of Circulatory system	621	19.49	610	20.35
Diseases of Respiratory system	389	12.21	349	11.60
Senility & ill-defined conditions	364	11.42	314	10.41
Infective & Parasitic Diseases	295	9.26	272	9.07
Diseases of Digestive System	271	8.50	260	8.67
Neoplasms	168	5.27	179	5.97
Diseases of Nervous System	171	5.56	161	5.37

The number of cases of communicable diseases notified were as follows :

	1952	1953
Enteric Fever	52	67
Tuberculosis	83	101
Diphtheria	5	16
Poliomyelitis	—	3

The Central Public Health Authority consists of a General Board of Health and the Director of Medical Services who is a member of the Board. The Authority has a Senior Medical Officer of Health and a small force of six Sanitary Inspectors at its disposal for supervising work in the parishes.

The eleven parishes each have a Board of Commissioners of Health appointed on a parochial basis from the Vestry. Each local authority appoints Sanitary Inspectors varying in number with the size of the parish. The parish of St. Michael employs six public health nurses. The parishes of St. Philip and Christ Church employ one public health nurse and a parish midwife respectively.

The Barbados General Hospital operates as a Department of Government under the provisions of the Barbados General Hospital Act, 1947 (No. 28 of 1947). The staff comprise :

Whole-time : One Medical Superintendent, one Surgeon Specialist, one Physician Specialist, one Radiologist, one Anaesthetist and six Medical Officers.

Part-time : Three Visiting Surgeons, two Assistant Visiting Surgeons, one Ophthalmic, Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeon, one Assistant Ophthalmic, Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeon, one Medical Officer, Venereal Diseases Clinic, one Assistant Medical Officer, Venereal Diseases Clinic, one Out-patient Medical Officer and one Dental Surgeon.

Nursing : One Matron, one Assistant Matron, one Sister Tutor and five Nursing Sisters.

Medical and Sanitary Personnel

	<i>Government</i>	<i>Local Authority</i>
Nurses	312	63
Sanitary Inspectors	6	83
Midwives	30	20
Public Health Nurses	3	6
Number of Doctors in private practice	37	
Number of Nurses in private practice	62	

Expenditure on Public Health

	<i>Capital</i>	<i>Recurrent</i>
	<i>\$</i>	<i>\$</i>
Central Government 1951-52	79,707	1,175,830
1952-53	44,243	1,370,221
Local Government 1952	Nil	307,635
1953	Nil	350,212

Institutions

<i>Central Government</i>	<i>Number of beds</i>
1 General Hospital	372
1 Mental Hospital	785
1 Maternity Hospital	20
1 Leprosarium	32
1 Health Centre	—
<i>Local Government</i>	
11 Almshouses (infirmaries)	1,300

The Central Government institutions are equipped to deal adequately with all general, medical and surgical cases. The local government institutions deal with minor illness and the care of the aged and infirm poor.

The Government initiated a public health service by establishing a health centre at Speightstown for the northern area, which has a population of about 60,000. Plans are being prepared for an enlargement of this service to other areas and for additional accommodation of 100 beds at the General Hospital. A Tuberculosis Control Programme will be incorporated in these plans of expansion.

HOUSING

The survey of tenantry areas made during 1946 in the extended City of Bridgetown showed that, out of 7,984 houses surveyed which were occupied by the lower income groups, 3,022 were unfit for human habitation, 2,710 were in need of repair and 1,647 were overcrowded as well as in need of repair. Similar conditions exist throughout the Island.

One of the chief problems is that a very large percentage of the houses, especially those occupied by the lower income groups, are built

of timber and subject to the ravages of termites and the weather. All the timber used in the erection of these houses has to be imported. Efforts are being made to encourage the erection of houses out of more permanent materials such as stone, concrete blocks, etc.

Housing Board

The Bridgetown Housing Act, which was passed in 1936, established a Housing Board of seven members. The Board has power to require alterations, repairs or demolition of houses unfit for human habitation or injurious to health and to execute such work at the owner's expense if necessary ; to satisfy itself that suitable accommodation is available for persons of the working class displaced by any order of the Board made in the exercise of its powers described above, and power to provide for their accommodation in dwelling-houses erected within or without the limits of the city ; to purchase, with the approval of the Legislature, sites of demolished houses and other land suitable for the accommodation of the working class ; to submit housing schemes to the Legislature ; to require the owner of any boarded and shingled house in the City of Bridgetown which stands on less than 1,600 sq.ft. of land to remove such house, notwithstanding that such person shall have complied with the provisions of the Public Health Act (there is no law to prevent another house being erected on the vacated spot of land) ; to prepare proper sites for the erection of houses removed from unsuitable slum areas. The Board controls the spending of money which may from time to time be voted by the Legislature under specific heads for the purpose of the Act.

The question of housing and town and country planning legislation is again under consideration by the Government.

Houses for Rental

During 1952-53 85 new houses were built by the Housing Board in urban and suburban areas at an average cost of \$2,219. The majority of these houses have three rooms and are rented to families selected from the lower income groups at rentals ranging from \$1.20 to \$2.30 per week.

This brings the total of new houses erected since 1949 to 292 of which a large proportion were built of local stone.

Preparation of Sites

Building sites were laid out and 194 houses were removed from congested slum areas and re-erected at the Bay and Pine Housing Estates during 1952 and 1953. Pit latrines and bathrooms were erected on each house spot. The average cost of preparing a house spot (approximately 60 feet by 40 feet) was \$220 and the cost of removal, re-erection and repair of a house \$96. All the houses removed and re-erected were owner-occupied and the spots rented at \$2.50 to \$4 per quarter. Approximately 4 miles of roadway 14 feet wide were constructed at the Bay and Pine Housing Estates.

Provision of Amenities

Two public standpipes and fire hydrants were erected at the Pine Estate and four at the Bay Estate. Public baths were erected at the Bay. Refuse disposal bins were installed at convenient points at all housing estates.

Aided Self-Help Housing

A pilot scheme for the erection of 15 three-roomed houses (20 feet by 18 feet) under the aided self-help method was begun at Clinketts in the Parish of St. Lucy in March, 1953.

The estimated cost of the scheme, excluding the cost of the land, is \$15,978, as follows :

	\$
Road construction	1,678
Water standpipes	1,000
Salary of construction foreman	400
Cost of block-making machine, tools, etc.	350
Materials for work shed	250
Travelling expenses	300
Loans for purchase of materials for the erection of 15 houses	12,000
Total	\$15,978

The cost of the materials and supervision is repayable by the families over a period of years (approximately 10 to 15 years). The land will be leased on a 99-year agreement. It is expected that this scheme will be completed early in 1954 and other schemes started.

Experiments and Research

Barbados has very little local building materials suitable for experimental purposes except clay. It is expected that hollow clay blocks manufactured locally will be available shortly for the building of houses, especially for the lower income groups.

Finance

During 1952 and 1953 the Housing Board spent a due proportion of the money set aside in the Five-Year Plan for housing on Government estates, etc. The Plan allows for the following expenditure :

	\$
Erection of New Houses	300,000
Preparation of Sites for the removal of houses	100,000
Removal of houses from congested and unsuit- able areas to properly prepared sites	40,000
Standpipes and Hydrants	20,000
Roads	65,000
Street Lighting	5,000
Land Acquisition	25,000
Windows, Bay	3,000

The Plan recommended that means of developing aided self-help housing should be considered, but made no specific provision for capital expenditure. It is hoped that any such scheme would in the main be self-supporting.

In addition the Plan has provided \$500,000 for making advances to civil servants under the Public Officers Housing Loan Act 1952 (see page 53), and \$750,000 for loans to workers other than in the sugar industry to repair or to assist in providing homes.

The Labour Welfare (Housing Loan) Fund Organisation, which is financed by a levy on sugar, makes loans to any agricultural or sugar industry labourer (whether living in urban or rural areas) for purchasing or constructing or carrying out alterations, additions or repairs to a house.

The Five-Year Plan envisaged that \$3,000,000 would be spent in the period out of this Fund on housing and \$500,000 on other rural amenities.

At 31st March, 1953, the Labour Welfare (Housing Loans) Fund had made loans to 4,227 workers amounting to \$1,425,983, as follows:

<i>Purpose</i>	<i>No. Persons</i>	<i>Amount Loaned</i>
Repairs and extensions of houses	2,453	\$ 670,693
Additions only	718	283,806
Purchase of houses	186	68,084
Construction of new timber houses	870	403,400
	4,227	\$1,425,983

At the end of December, 1953, loans had been made to 5,303 persons amounting to \$1,877,119. (Two per cent interest is paid on these loans after the first year). Over 9,000 applications have been received so far and others continue to come in daily.

SOCIAL WELFARE

Social Welfare Department

In June, 1952, a Directive was issued creating a social Welfare Department and defining the status and duties of the Social Welfare Officer.

The list of duties excluded any responsibility at central level for the important welfare services of poor relief and old age pensions. This omission is deliberate, pending legislative decisions on three important Bills (on local government, on public health and on public assistance) whose effect would be to re-organise the present parochial system.

Community Halls and Playing Fields

Three hundred thousand dollars was allocated from the Labour Welfare Fund to the Community Hall and Playing Fields Scheme, and the Social Welfare Department was made responsible for detailed administration in liaison with the Vestries. Up to 31st March, 1953, the total amount granted to eight out of eleven Vestries was \$154,005. By

that date the following six community halls were provided : Belleplaine Community Hall, St. Andrew; Princess Alice Playing Field, St. Michael; King George V Memorial Park, St. Philip; Bathsheba Social Centre, St. Joseph; Ellerton Social Centre, St. George; and Sargeants Village Community Hall, Christ Church.

When a hall is ready the Vestry responsible sets up a Playing Field Committee with co-opted members from local organisations.

The Vestries rent out the halls for dances, picnics and concerts to raise funds for maintaining them.

Care of Children

Government provides a midwifery training centre which has an ante- and post-natal clinic. In addition there are ten baby welfare centres and three day-crèches run by voluntary committees. These committees are nearly all grant-aided from Government and local authority funds. They distribute milk and cod liver oil to necessitous cases, give advice to mothers and arrange for children to go to the doctor when necessary.

Destitute children are taken in as inmates into the almshouses. In the largest parish, St. Michael, there is a children's home for some 35 children and in St. Philip there is a special building for destitute children and mothers with young babies.

There is an Act for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children. Young people under the age of 14 may not be employed in industrial undertakings.

Welfare of the Handicapped

No special provision can at present be made in the schools for the physically handicapped. The Barbados Association in Aid of the Blind and the Deaf is an active body and pursues a policy of giving training, not charity. This has necessarily meant starting with the youngest age groups. Five children were maintained throughout the year in the Special School for Deaf Children in Trinidad and in December, 1952, the first blind child from Barbados left for the school in Trinidad for blind children.

In addition the Association runs a small training centre for blind adults in Bridgetown where 14 students attend to learn handicrafts.

Rural Welfare

Rural needs must be considered against the background of a small island interlaced by good roads with frequent communication between outlying points and the centre, Bridgetown. This encourages a drift to the town but has certain advantages. Along the roads stretch water mains and telephone wires and over most of the southern area a network of electric cables. Little shops frequently restocked with consumer goods are thickly spread. The baker and even the ice-cream van call. Itinerant salesmen in cars visit the houses. Piped-water is supplied free from standpipes; a telephone is available at the shop. The district or village community, cut off from its centre and dependent for necessities

on infrequent visits from outside, is not the picture. The people, although primarily agricultural producers, are more a semi-urban than a rural community.

As a result of these good communications, there is not the strong local feeling that develops in more isolated communities. People are Barbadians first. They belong only secondarily to the parish and little if at all to their immediate neighbourhood. Village and parish improvement schemes, crafts, cottage industries and rural activities consequently exist only in small pockets of population.

Nevertheless there are districts which do not quite fit into this picture. St. Andrew's parish (the Scotland District) has a soil formation of clay and a clay working tradition which probably goes back to the original settlements. In St. Joseph and St. Thomas and parts of St. Lucy, good baskets are made from locally grown fibres. On the leeward coast where turtles are caught, some skill in turtleshell exists.

Youth Organisations

Because of a large number of unemployed school leavers, the Social Welfare Department has tried to develop group work among the young people. Youth groups are easily formed, but not always so easy to keep going. At any one time there are a good number spread over the Island, but the clubs come and go, and membership fluctuates. Cricket clubs are the exception; these always flourish and a network of them covers the Island.

The majority of youth organisations do not have an upper or lower age limit so that it is often not easy to draw a line between youth and adult organisations. No Island Youth Council exists, and although individual bodies have periodically shown some interest, there is little demand from most. Nevertheless, considerable progress was made by the Central Council of Old Scholars' Associations attached to the elementary schools in persuading a number of independent units to combine. The Central Council therefore is itself an embryonic Youth Council; it is hoped that over the years it will develop into a more representative body than at present. The Central Council has some 800 members.

The numerically strongest movements are the Girl Guides, the Boy Scouts, the Old Scholars' Associations, the Y.M.C.A., the Girls' Industrial Union and the Police Boys' and Girls' Clubs. Some details of the Police Clubs are given on page 57.

Poor Relief

The responsibility for raising the money (by rating) and administering grants-in-aid to destitute people rests on the Vestries under the Poor Relief Act, 1892 and the Vestries Act, 1911. Each parish has a Board of Poor Law Guardians under the chairmanship of its churchwarden, which is responsible for the administration of the almshouses, for medical services as required and for any scheme of outdoor relief which the authority administers.

In the almshouses medical and destitute cases are generally housed in the same wards (maternity cases are however usually separated). In three almshouses special wards have been provided for children, but in most of the almshouses there is no segregation on the basis of age, only on that of sex. St. Michael, the most heavily populated parish with the largest number of children, runs the Nightingale Children's Home where some 35 children aged between 8-16 are housed. Another parish, St. Philip, has a special building where destitute children and mothers and young babies are housed. This was provided by a private benefactor.

The following details give an overall picture of the poor relief services provided by the parishes in 1953:

No. receiving any kind of poor relief	21,337
No. receiving medical relief	12,963
No. visited in their homes	852
No. receiving medical relief in almshouses	3,043
No. receiving cash relief	5,630
No. in almshouses for non-medical reasons	908
No. buried at parish expense	392

The total cost of the above services was \$665,693.

In addition to indoor relief all eleven parishes assist necessitous cases by outdoor relief, which takes the form of money or assistance in kind. St. Michael's Vestry has a well organised system of breakfast tickets which enable destitute persons to get one good nutritious meal a day in Queen's Park in the centre of the town.

Care of the Aged

Old age pensions are given on a non-contributory basis and applicants are eligible at 68 (or 40 if blind). The scheme amounts to a specialised form of poor relief since the maximum amount given is limited to \$1.20 per week, or "such portion thereof as together with his weekly means . . . shall amount to not more than \$1.75."

The amount spent in 1952-53 on old age pensions was \$495,000, representing 4.3 per cent of total expenditure. Expenditure is controlled by eleven Old Age Pensions Claims Committees, the personnel of which is nominated. These Claims Committees control six Pensions Enquiry Officers, all appointed by Government. Payment to applicants, except in St. Michael's Parish where a special office has been opened, is made by branch post offices in the rural areas.

In addition to Government and parochial aid, a few voluntary homes are run for elderly indigent people. Between them, however, these homes cater for less than 100 individuals.

Juvenile Delinquency and Probation Services

Legislation dealing with young delinquents is contained mainly in the Juvenile Offenders Act, 1932, the Probation Offenders Act, 1945, and the Government Industrial Schools Act, 1926.

The incidence of juvenile delinquency is low and the offences reported are seldom of a serious nature. The delinquency rate in 1952 was 5 per 1,000 children in the age group 7 to 16 years.

The Juvenile Courts have jurisdiction over children of 7 to 16 years : 384 children and young persons, 266 of whom were found guilty, appeared before Courts of this type during 1952. They were charged with the following offences :

Miscellaneous	90	(breaches of Highways Act, etc.,)
Against property	146	(including 117 larcenies and 8 cases of breaking and entering)
Against the person	148	(including 91 minor assault cases)

The larcency charges are usually in respect of small quantities of corn, sugar cane or coconuts, or for the theft of other property of low value.

Juvenile Courts are held in each of the six Police Districts, wherever possible in rooms distinct from the adult court rooms.

Probation is used by the Courts for juveniles and adults of both sexes, and during 1952 probationers dealt with numbered 375 (149 men, 34 women, 144 boys and 48 girls), compared with 361 (136 men, 26 women, 156 boys and 43 girls) in 1953.

Chapter 8: Legislation

During the years 1952 and 1953 a large number of Acts were passed by the Legislature, the most important being the following :

To give effect to the recommendations of the Plan of Development and Taxation a number of amendments were passed to various Acts increasing taxation rates and fees for Government services in cases in which these are statutory.

Early in 1952 the Public Officers Housing Loan Act was passed setting up a fund from which public servants can borrow money for purchasing, building or repairing their homes. The loans are interest free and the fund is to be administered by a board set up by the Governor-in-Executive Committee. The Act was the outcome of negotiations between the Government and the Civil Service Association.

Another fund which was established by the Revenue Equalisation Fund Act of 1952 provides a reserve in the event of a temporary recession in public revenue. It was felt that the peak in sugar prices had been reached and that, although the Island had had four years of good crops, a bad year or series of bad years might leave the public finances in a weak state. The fund was designed to cushion any fall in the price of sugar or poor production. To this fund is paid each year 50 per cent of the surplus of revenue over expenditure.

The opportunity was taken during 1952 to consolidate the law re-

lating to immigration and to bring it more up to date in the light of modern needs and practices.

The Labour Clauses (Public Contracts) Act put into effect the International Labour Convention on that subject passed in June, 1949. The Act sets out a number of provisions for incorporation in every public contract for construction and services.

The acceptance of the principle of compulsory insurance against third-party risks arising out of the use of motor vehicles on public roads in the Island resulted in the passing of the Motor Vehicles Insurance (Third Party Risks) Act, 1952. It is based on similar legislation in the United Kingdom and elsewhere. Although the Act was passed in 1952 it had not been brought into force by the end of the period as there were a great many administrative details to settle before such legislation could operate in a satisfactory manner.

As a result largely of the serious damage caused to the fishing fleet by abnormally high tides along the Leeward Coast in December, 1951, the Fishing Industries Act was passed. The Act provides for the registration and inspection of fishing boats, and the licensing of fishermen. In order to promote the interests of the fishing industry, the Act also empowers the Governor-in-Executive Committee to grant loans to fishermen for the purpose of repairing or completing the construction of their fishing boats and for the purpose of purchasing material, gear and tackle for the boats.

Arising from the acceptance by the Legislature of the Five-Year Plan of Development and Taxation an Act was passed early in 1953 authorising the Government to raise \$2,000,000 for the purpose of meeting the cost of constructing schools and other Government buildings, for the furtherance of the Government housing scheme and for the improvement of water supplies.

The Plan also led to the introduction of an entertainment tax. This tax is now levied on cinema shows, horse races, inter-colonial and test cricket, football and tennis matches, theatrical performances, fêtes, fairs and bazaars, other than those held in aid of charity. The legislation was passed in time to be in operation for the series of cricket matches against the Indian Team in February, 1953.

The Sugar Industry (Rehabilitation, Labour Welfare and Irrigation) Act, 1953, was passed to make provision for the disposal of a large sum of money that had accrued in respect of the sales of sugar from the Island by the Government of the United Kingdom to Canada. By this Act one-third of the sum was paid to the fund for rehabilitation, one-third to the Labour Welfare Fund and one-third was set aside to be used for research and investigations into the possibility of large-scale irrigation works for the benefit of the sugar industry.

In order to improve the standards of the Civil Service the Legislature passed the Training Scheme Fund Act. This set up a fund to provide scholarships and training courses, on the advice of the Public Service Commission, for members of the Public Service.

A somewhat similar Act, the Higher Education (Loan Fund) Act, made provision for the establishment of a fund to be administered by

a committee with the power to grant loans to students to enable them to pursue courses in higher education at any institution approved by the committee.

The Public Utilities Act, which had been passed in 1951 and reserved for Her Majesty's pleasure, came into operation in 1953 and an amending Act was passed which cleared up some points of difficulty that had been raised by the utility companies.

Finally an Act of considerable constitutional importance, the Representation of the People (Amendment) Act, 1953, was passed to extend the life of the House of Assembly from three to five years.

Chapter 9: Justice, Police and Prisons

JUSTICE

The Chief Justice of the Island is appointed by Her Majesty the Queen and presides over the Superior Courts, that is to say, the Courts of Chancery, Common Pleas, Ordinary, Divorce and Matrimonial Causes, Grand Sessions, Admiralty, Bankruptcy, Escheat and Error.

The Court of Error hears appeals from the Assistant Court of Appeal when that Court has exercised both original and appellate jurisdiction. However, appeals to the Court of Error from the Assistant Court of Appeal on a finding made in its appellate capacity is limited to points of law, though appeals from its original jurisdiction may be made on both points of law and points of fact.

Appeals lie from the Superior Courts mentioned above, except the Court of Grand Sessions, to the West Indian Court of Appeal. In the case of the Court of Grand Sessions the Chief Justice may in his own discretion reserve any question of law arising during the hearing of any matter before the Court of Grand Sessions for the consideration of the West Indian Court of Appeal. The right of appeal to Her Majesty in Council is preserved by section 14 of the West Indian Court of Appeal Act, 1920.

The Court of Grand Sessions sits three times a year in March, July and November. Before a person is brought before the Court for trial on a criminal charge a preliminary investigation is conducted by a Magistrate.

The Assistant Court of Appeal has original and appellate jurisdiction. Two Judges sit together when the Court is in its appellate sessions, but only one Judge sits when it is exercising its original jurisdiction.

In its original jurisdiction the Court has powers to determine cases of debt in which the value of the claim exceeds \$96 but does not exceed \$240, and in all pleas of personal action where the claim is over \$48 but does not exceed \$240. The Court also possesses powers to deal with limited cases of equity and probate. In its appellate jurisdiction the

Court hears appeals from the decisions of the Magistrates and from the Court of the Petty Debt Judge for Bridgetown.

The Magistrates preside over the District Police Courts, three hearing the criminal cases that arise in Bridgetown and four hearing those in the other districts of the Island. In Bridgetown there is, in addition to the Magistrates dealing with criminal cases, a Petty Debt Court Judge who presides over the civil cases. The four District Magistrates outside Bridgetown deal with both criminal and civil cases. The Magistrates also deal with cases involving juvenile offenders; complaints against children and young persons are heard at special times and in different buildings from the main court and the Magistrates are assisted by the Probation Officer, who was appointed in 1947.

Owing to the amount of work in the Superior Courts, an Act was passed to enable a temporary Puisne Judge to be appointed to help the Chief Justice.

Except for one case of the murder of a child involving magic rites, there were no cases of unusual interest during the period.

POLICE

The establishment of the Police Force is 1 Commissioner, 1 Deputy Commissioner, 6 superintendents, 1 chief inspector, 7 inspectors, 17 station sergeants, 22 sergeants, 78 corporals and 431 constables, including 4 policewomen and 37 writ servers.

There is a Mounted Troop consisting of 22 n.c.o.s and men who are stationed at the six larger police stations and patrol sugar estates and rural areas. The horses are all Canadian half-breeds and are in excellent condition.

The Police Band which is recognised as one of the best in the West Indies plays regularly in Bridgetown and country districts.

Two police dogs are on establishment of the Force; one of them arrived recently from the Metropolitan Police Dog Training School, at Imber Court near London. In 1953 a constable from the Force was attached to the School for a course of instruction in the handling and training of dogs.

The Island is divided into five Police Areas, each commanded by a Superintendent. There are 22 police stations connected with headquarters by telephone, the majority being through the Police Private Exchange. In addition four stations maintain wireless communication with the Headquarters Control Room. A 999 Emergency System has been installed; it is maintained by two wireless vans.

Sixty-seven recruits were enlisted into the Force during the period 1952-53, of whom 23 are still in training. The initial training course lasts six months and includes instruction in law, police duties, first aid, swimming, physical training, self defence, foot drill, rifle drill and weapon training. A refresher course in traffic duties, mobile and foot, was held.

A total of 7,884 cases (including traffic) was reported to the Police in 1952 and 7,692 in 1953 as compared with 8,588 and 6,549 in 1951 and 1950 respectively. The crime figures for 1952 and 1953 are as follows :

		1952			1953	
	<i>Cases reported to Police</i>	<i>Cases taken to Court</i>	<i>Cases under investigation</i>	<i>Cases reported to Police</i>	<i>Cases taken to Court</i>	<i>Cases under investigation</i>
Offences against persons . . .	498	404	3	479	374	5
Offences against property . . .	2,217	958	71	2,009	888	114
Other offences . . .	1,509	1,486	5	1,544	1,511	2
TOTAL . . .	4,224	2,848	79	4,032	2,773	121

The Police are responsible for the administration of the Immigration Act. Figures of people arriving and departing by sea and air are given on pages 65 and 66. The Immigration Branch also deals with the issue of passports, travel permits and certificates of identity.

The issue of motor vehicle drivers' licences, including the testing of applicants, of firearm licences and of explosive permits is also undertaken by the Police.

Fifteen boys' clubs and four girls' clubs with a total membership of 749 boys and 193 girls are now operated by the Police in various parts of the Island. Members are taught trades and useful occupations in addition to being provided with recreational facilities.

PRISONS

There is one Central Prison, the Glendairy Prison, which houses male and female prisoners in separate compounds, and has cell accommodation for 275 males and 125 females. The establishment consists of a Superintendent, a part-time Chaplain, a part-time Medical Officer, 50 male and 12 female prison officers.

	1952		1953	
	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
Number of prisoners received .	175	16	197	8
Daily average of convicted .	140	7	145	8
„ „ „ remands .	16	—	11	1

First offenders are separated as far as possible from recidivists, reside in a separate block, and work inside the prison. Those with long terms are employed in carpentry, tailoring, tinsmithing, gardening and on the stock farm. Recidivists are employed in stone quarrying, scavenging, bread making, repairing of yards, etc. and supply a gang for work in the grounds of Government House daily.

The Medical Officer attends to the sick daily. Serious illness or cases requiring surgical attention are treated at the General Hospital. All eye complaints are treated by an eye specialist and, if necessary, glasses are supplied at Government expense.

Depending on the term of imprisonment, illiterate and semi-illiterate first offenders and recidivists attend school. The well behaved attend evening lectures thrice weekly from 6 to 8 p.m.

Women prisoners are employed on washing clothes, cooking, sewing and mending.

Young offenders up to 21 years of age with a sentence of not more than three months, providing their home conditions are suitable, may serve the term extra-murally, and are employed for six hours a day at either district police stations or Government farms.

On sentences exceeding one month remission of one-fourth may be earned for industry and good conduct. Prisoners are aided on discharge with cash, clothing and tools.

GOVERNMENT INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS

There are separate Government Industrial Schools for boys and girls. The daily average was 75 boys and 11 girls in 1952 and 85 boys and 12 girls in 1953. Classification according to ages was as follows:

	<i>14 years and under</i>		<i>Over 14 to 16</i>		<i>Over 16</i>	
	<i>Boys</i>	<i>Girls</i>	<i>Boys</i>	<i>Girls</i>	<i>Boys</i>	<i>Girls</i>
1952	31	4	23	3	21	4
1953	32	1	23	4	30	7

The average length of detention in the schools was three years, and the maximum and minimum ages were 19 years and 9 years respectively.

Thirty boys and four girls were committed to the schools in 1952, and 19 boys and one girl during 1953. The large majority of the children were committed for cases of petty larceny.

Twelve boys and one girl were discharged during 1952 and 13 boys and three girls during 1953.

The Chaplain visits the schools weekly. The boys and girls attend services at St. Philip's Church.

About 25 per cent of the children admitted were illiterate. Instruction is given to backward and retarded children in the evenings, and each member of the teaching staff in turn supervises the class. Boys are taught carpentry, masonry, tailoring, handicrafts, shoemaking, gardening and animal husbandry, and girls gardening, poultry-rearing, needlework, handicrafts and housecraft.

Cricket and football are the main outdoor games; organised indoor games are also played. Sightseeing and educational tours, particularly during the summer vacation of four weeks, are made to places of interest. Sea-bathing and visits to cinemas continue as a regular feature.

Children whose conduct merited it were allowed occasional visits to their homes.

Books from the Public Library were made available to the pupils during their leisure time.

Health was good throughout the period with the exception of an outbreak of tonsillitis and bronchitis.

Discipline is maintained chiefly by a system of rewards and privileges and by admonitions. Corporal punishment is administered only in the case of boys and as a last resort, and solitary confinement on punishment diet in exceptional cases.

Of the children discharged from the schools during 1939-48 27 per cent of the boys and 2 per cent of the girls were subsequently imprisoned for offences, of those discharged during 1949-53 11 per cent of the boys and no girls were subsequently imprisoned.

Great emphasis is laid on constructive and vocational work and attempts are made to fit these juveniles into jobs according to their aptitudes and interest. An After-Care Officer obtains employment for those who are discharged and visits their homes.

Chapter 10: Public Utilities and Public Works

ELECTRICITY

Electricity is supplied by a private company, the Barbados Electric Supply Corporation Limited, to private, commercial and industrial premises, and for street lighting in Bridgetown and parts of Christ Church, St. James and St. Peter. Power is supplied to many of the sugar factories. The Company operates under the Electric Light and Power (Provisional Orders Confirmation) Act, 1907. The whole Island is not yet supplied, but under the terms of the Act the Company has the right to extend its service to any area within 50 years from 1st August, 1936.

The power station has a plant capacity of 6,784 kw. Electricity is generated at 3,300 volts and is supplied to the high-tension distribution network at 3,300 volts and 11,000 volts. Domestic and other low-tension supply is at 110 volts, 50 cycles A.C., general power supply is at 208 volts 3-phase and 220 volts 2-phase. The number of consumers at 31st December, 1953, was 9,052 compared with 8,476 in 1952.

In 1953, 6,225,377 units were sold to domestic consumers and 7,838,984 to industrial consumers, compared with 5,949,847 and 7,324,142 respectively in 1952.

A Government Electrical Engineer supervises the erection and maintenance of all Government electrical equipment. The duties of the Government Electrical Inspector, appointed under the Electricity Act of 1936, are to inspect annually all Government installations and apparatus, to inspect new installations on public or private premises to see that they comply with the Electric Light and Power Act and that they meet the proper safety requirements, and to inspect the wiring from the Electric Company's mains to consumers' meters. In addition, the Government Electrical Inspector has duties and powers under the Wireless Telegraphy Act, 1940.

GAS

A Gas Company operates under the terms of the Gas Act, 1911, and the Amending Act of 1951, the latter enables the Company to sell gas on a thermal basis.

The Company supplies gas for industrial, street lighting and domestic purposes in Bridgetown, in residential areas around the city and in part of Christ Church. The principal streets of Bridgetown are still mainly lighted by gas lamps.

Natural gas in its "neat" state is purchased from the Natural Gas Corporation and retailed by the Company.

The Company supplied 9,000,000 cu. ft. to industrial users, 5,500,000 cu. ft. for street lighting and 19,174,000 cu. ft. to domestic users and Government institutions in 1953.

WATERWORKS

About 4 million gallons of water are consumed daily; one million gallons come from springs and the rest has to be pumped between 125 and 750 feet from the underground streams and lakes in the coral.

Round the coast and for considerable distances inland the fresh water overlies, but does not intermingle with, the sea water that has penetrated into the coral. The water, after filtering through the coral, is exceptionally pure from a bacteriological point of view, but is somewhat hard due to its contact with the coral.

Annual expenditure is in the neighbourhood of \$700,000 and revenue is \$300,000.

The aim of the Waterworks Department is to raise the water supply of the Island to such a state that no major additions and alterations will be necessary for a generation to come.

Steam pumps, which have been working since 1889, 1899, 1911 and 1925, are being replaced with modern electrical plant. Three new pumping stations have been set up: one to cover Bridgetown and suburbs is at Belle, three miles from the city, and has four submersible pumps, each raising $1\frac{1}{2}$ million gallons per day; one to give the northern portion of the Island adequate water, is pumping from the sweet sheet water (to the east of Speightstown on the west coast) held in the coral by the sea water; and the third is pumping from a lake in the coral in the centre of the Island.

Twenty-two roadside standposts with their necessary piping were completed, bringing the total to 825. Over two-thirds of the population draw free water from these standposts.

Additional large mains have been laid in Bridgetown with the object of supplying water for fire fighting appliances. Additional fire hydrants have also been fixed.

The East Coast Main passes through what might be termed "mountainous" country; it starts at 900 feet above the sea, drops to 200 feet, rises to 750 feet and then supplies an amphitheatre of country between sea level and 750 feet. Supply in the past was interrupted by landslides.

This trouble has now been circumvented by laying a new main above and around the unstable localities.

Natural springs on the east coast which were harnessed and piped into Bridgetown in the eighteen-sixties still form a useful addition to the water supply, as the quality of the water is high and no pumping is necessary. As the discharge from the springs appeared to be dropping one set of pipes has been opened up, cleared of debris and roots, refilled, and the discharge has been increased in consequence. The other set of pipes will be cleaned shortly.

Development of water resources is financed under Colonial Development and Welfare Scheme D.1503.

As a result of exploratory boring in an upland valley (Sweet Vale), an underground lake in the coral, about 120 feet below the ground surface, about 4 miles long, of varying width at the surface and with a water level about 580 feet above the sea, has been discovered. It is hoped to extract a million gallons per day from this lake, and the mere fact that the water surface is 580 feet above the sea is of inestimable value from the pumping point of view.

PUBLIC WORKS

The following capital works were carried out in 1952.

School furniture was provided for the newly extended St. Leonard's Boys School.

The conversion of the building purchased in Speightstown as a Health Centre was completed at a cost of \$35,556.

New quarters for the manager and overseer of the Government Estates at Dodds and Summervale together with stables, manure and store rooms, and garages, were erected at a cost of \$37,858.

At Seawell Airport the extension to the Terminal Building, and alterations to the old garage and attendants' quarters to provide a Port Health Office, were completed at a cost of \$68,035.

Two open sites on the sea side of Bay Street were cleaned up, one was provided with a colassed surface, and trees and flowers were planted.

Work was begun late in 1952 on a programme of extensions at the Pine Livestock Station, including quarters for the overseer, sleeping accommodation for the herdsman, extension of the sheep, bull and pig pens, and a garage for the field overseer. This work continued throughout 1953; and the expenditure for the two years was \$31,528.

The following capital works were carried out in 1953.

Two elementary schools were built in St. Lucy's parish, one at Half Moon Fort and the other at Selah, at costs of \$39,850 and \$48,569 respectively.

Work was commenced on the Technical School at Richmond and at the Pine Primary School.

A fish market was built at Speightstown at a cost of \$16,450.

Eagle Hall Market was constructed to drawings and specifications provided by the Vestry of St. Michael, at a cost of \$31,376.

A canteen for airport staff and workers was erected at a cost of \$5,160.

Work was begun at the Library and Post Office at Oistins.

Extensive alterations were made to various Government offices in order to accommodate the Ministers and staff under the new Ministerial System.

Normal maintenance of Government buildings and property was carried out during the two years under review, with special emphasis on re-roofing with corrugated asbestos sheeting where necessary, renewal of termite infested woodwork, replacing this whenever possible with stone, concrete or greenheart timber, and painting woodwork for its preservation.

The cost of the recurrent maintenance programme was \$125,247 in 1952 and \$159,006 in 1953.

The maintenance and repairs to elementary schools and the erection of domestic science and work rooms and water-borne toilets at various schools were carried out at a cost of \$71,338 in 1952 and \$67,098 in 1953.

Chapter 11: Communications

SHIPPING

The major port is Bridgetown. There is an open anchorage in Carlisle Bay for all classes and sizes of vessels, and the carenage provides berthing alongside wharves for vessels of a maximum length of 200 feet and a maximum draft of 14 ft. 6 inches.

Port services include one 200 h.p. tug waterboat with a water capacity of 106 tons, one 200 h.p. Diesel tug for towing and one dumb water barge with a capacity of 96 tons. Water can be delivered to ships at the rate of 100 tons per hour.

The major shipping lines calling at Barbados are:

Royal Netherlands Steamship Co.

- (i) Twice weekly cargo sailings from Amsterdam to Barbados, Trinidad, Paramaribo and Demerara, and thence back to Europe via Paramaribo.
- (ii) Once monthly combined cargo and passenger sailing from Amsterdam, Dover and Madeira to Barbados, Trinidad, Paramaribo and Demerara, and thence back to U.K. and Europe via Paramaribo.

- (iii) Once monthly cargo and passenger sailing from Amsterdam to Madeira, La Guaira, Curacao, Aruba, Puerto Limon, Cristobal, returning to Puerto Limon, Aruba, Curacao, La Guaira, Trinidad, Barbados and on to the U.K. and Europe, with an optional call at Madeira.
- (iv) Once monthly cargo sailing from Europe to Barbados, Trinidad La Guaira, Curacao, Aruba and Venezuelan and/or South American ports.

Lamport & Holt—Irregular.

Saguenay Terminals Ltd.

- (i) Fortnightly sailings from Montreal, Halifax, St. John, calling at Santiago de Cuba, Jamaica, Haiti, Dominican Republic, Barbados, Trinidad and Demerara.
- (ii) One sailing each month from Rotterdam, Antwerp, London, calling at Trinidad, Barbados and Demerara.
- (iii) One sailing each month from Newport, Swansea, Glasgow and Liverpool, calling at Trinidad, Barbados, Demerara.

Alcoa Steamship Co.

- (i) Monthly service from New York and fortnightly service from New Orleans.
- (ii) Regular fortnightly service sailing from Montreal and Halifax during the summer months, and from Halifax and St. John during the winter months, calling at Barbados via the Leeward Islands.

The Harrison Line.

Three sailings from London and three sailings from Liverpool per month. Some of the vessels from London call at Trinidad before Barbados, other sailings are direct.

James Nourse Ltd.

Monthly service from India and Africa to Barbados via Trinidad.

The M.A.N.Z. Steamship Company.

Three-monthly service from New Zealand to Barbados usually calling at Trinidad before Barbados.

Canadian National Steamship Company.

Regular passenger and freight service during 1952 with two passenger ships and three motor-driven freighters until the passenger ships R.M.S. *Lady Rodney* and *Lady Nelson* were withdrawn in the fall of that year. The service by the five ships was approximately bi-monthly. During 1953 a regular service was maintained by the three motor vessels each of which carry 12 cabin passengers.

Frequent communication is maintained by inter-colonial vessels between Barbados and the Leeward and Windward Islands, Trinidad

and British Guiana. These vessels consist of sailing schooners, auxiliary schooners and small motor vessels.

Vessels Entering Carenage

<i>Rig</i>	<i>Number</i>		<i>Tonnage</i>	
	1952	1953	1952	1953
Steam and motor	173	183	51,748	56,648
Schooners	364	348	26,173	24,118
Barges	4	2	242	121
Droghers	—	2	—	46
Naval M.V.	—	2	—	720
Total	541	537	78,163	81,653

Merchant Shipping Entering Port

<i>Class of Vessel</i>	<i>Nationality</i>	<i>No. of Vessels</i>		<i>Net Tonnage</i>	
		1952	1953	1952	1953
Steam and Motor	British	383	344	1,062,763	901,528
	French	32	28	270,351	218,485
	American	45	34	244,051	225,553
	Dutch	53	55	129,282	146,967
	Norwegian	55	73	215,730	255,244
	Honduran	13	12	19,276	14,310
	Argentine	2	—	8,112	—
	Venezuelan	5	6	1,938	980
	Panamanian	8	12	28,025	45,551
	Swiss	3	11	7,968	29,227
	German	1	9	1,252	9,013
	Swedish	1	5	2,600	11,437
	Liberian	3	—	12,822	—
	Italian	6	—	22,677	—
	Greek	4	16	17,611	69,579
	Finnish	3	2	14,892	9,928
	Danish	2	3	2,402	4,104
	Columbian	8	3	1,189	471
	Costa Rican	—	19	—	4,560
	Cuban	—	2	—	1,110
		627	634	2,062,941	1,948,047
Tankers	British	4	6	4,940	12,491
	Dutch	10	11	18,915	21,198
	Venezuelan	1	—	1,830	—
	American	—	1	—	1,200
		15	18	25,685	34,889
Sailing Vessels	British	356	341	18,914	17,368
	French	2	4	147	319
		358	345	19,061	17,687
Total Merchant Shipping :		1,000	997	2,107,687	2,000,623

Other Shipping Entering Port

Class of Vessel	Nationality	No. of Vessels		Net Tonnage	
		1952	1953	1952	1953
Yachts	British	22	14	584	238
	American	7	8	391	152
	Swedish	1	—	3	—
	Portuguese	1	—	38	—
	Belgian	1	—	149	—
	French	2	2	16	20
	Dutch	—	1	—	4
		34	25	1,181	414
R.F.A.	British	2	—	9,059	—
H.M.S.	British	5	5	29,200	46,800
U.S.N.	American	—	11	—	57,975
N.S.	French	—	3	—	2,390
Training Ship	Swedish	—	2	—	440
TOTAL		41	46	39,440	108,019

Inward and Outward Passengers

		Arrivals		Departures	
		1952	1953	1952	1953
Males		2,193	1,984	2,412	2,097
Females		3,222	2,921	2,592	2,112
		5,415	4,905	5,004	4,209

ROADS AND VEHICLES

The Department of Highways and Transport maintains the main highways and controls public transport and road traffic. There are 623 miles of road open to traffic of which 331 miles are main roads; 313 miles have bituminous surfaces. The roads are in the main in good order having good surfaces and easy gradients and provide easy access to practically the whole of the Island.

Several road improvements and reconstruction works to bridges were carried out during the year 1953.

A considerable mileage of parish and tenantry roads has been reconstructed recently and the surfaces of 17 miles of subsidiary roads in the environs of Bridgetown have been improved.

The parish roads are maintained by the Vestries of the parishes in which they are situated with the exception of the parishes of St. Michael, St. Lucy and St. Andrew.

The public transport services run at frequent intervals in the city of Bridgetown and its suburbs, and a daily service, connects Bridgetown

with the country districts. All bus routes are approved by the Director of Highways and Transport.

The number of motor and other vehicles in the Island were as follows:

	1952	1953
Private Cars	3,816	4,086
Taxis	345	374
Buses	156	163
Motor Cycles	356	444
Commercial Vehicles	1,045	1,565
Bicycles	23,596	23,177
Tractors	71	93
Trailers	27	23
Other Vehicles	3,615	4,379
(including all animal-drawn vehicles)		

The Department inspects all public service and commercial vehicles.

AIR

Barbados has one airfield at Seawell, about 12 miles from Bridgetown, where a new runway was constructed from funds provided by Colonial Development and Welfare during the period under review. Considerable improvements have also been made to the terminal buildings and runway lighting has been installed.

International Services and Frequencies.

<i>Scheduled (per week)</i>	1952	1953
British West Indian Airways Ltd.	16	16
Trans Canada Airlines	2	2
Linea Aeropostal Venezolana	1	1
St. Vincent Government Air Service	4	4
British Overseas Airways Corporation	—	2

Non-Scheduled

K.L.M.	27	14
Resort Airlines	34	31
Pan American Airways Ltd.	2	1
Air France	—	11
British Guiana Airways	—	4
Cubana	—	1 (Technical Stop)

	1952			1953		
	<i>In</i>	<i>Out</i>	<i>In Transit</i>	<i>In</i>	<i>Out</i>	<i>In Transit</i>
Aircraft Movements :						
General	1,346	1,345	—	1,417	1,416	—
Light Aeroplane Club	566	566	—	838	838	—
Passengers	15,510	16,144	3,247	16,202	17,222	4,899
Freight (pounds)	210,891	135,223	1,598	215,653	118,451	—
Mail (pounds)	42,865	26,500	—	58,964	33,336	—

The services provided by the Government at Seawell Airport are Air Traffic Control and allied services, Fire and Crash Services and Meteorological Services.

During 1952 the Barbados Light Aeroplane Club was formed.

1953 saw the inauguration of the new service by the British Overseas Airways Corporation from London to the Caribbean.

POSTS

The General Post Office is situated in Bridgetown. In addition there are 10 Parish Post Offices and three sub-offices, all of which transact full postal business. Delivery of all classes of mail, except parcel post, is made by postmen at the place of address; deliveries are as follows: Daily, Monday to Friday, three in the city area, two in suburban districts and one in rural areas; Saturday, two in the city and one in all other areas. There is no delivery of mail on Sundays and public holidays.

The total revenue and expenditure over the past five financial years are shown in the following table; the difference between gross revenue and postal revenue comprises customs duties and package tax and stamp duties:

<i>Financial Year</i>	<i>Gross Revenue</i>	<i>Postal Revenue</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>
	\$	\$	\$
1949-50	600,020	405,736	308,790
1950-51	788,179	538,113	351,711
1951-52	711,038	396,490	348,124
1952-53	772,325	479,537	407,948
1953-54 (Estimate)	791,871	456,000	459,420

Non-postal revenue collected during the above-mentioned period was as follows:

	<i>Customs Duties & Package Tax</i>	<i>Stamp Duties</i>
	\$	\$
1949-50	154,536	39,748
1950-51	206,842	43,224
1951-52	257,932	56,616
1952-53	249,857	42,931
1953-54 (Estimate)	293,968	41,403

There has been a progressive increase in postal revenue during the financial years 1952-53 and 1953-54 although the increase in expenditure has also been proportionately greater. The increase in Revenue was mainly due to an upward revision of postage rates during this period, while the increase in expenditure is due to a revision of salaries and increase in air mail traffic and cost of equipment and stores.

The following table shows the number of postal packets despatched and received by air and ocean mails during the years 1952 and 1953:

BARBADOS

	<i>Despatched</i>		<i>Received</i>	
<i>Air Mail</i>	1952	1953	1952	1953
Unregistered	974,453	1,059,952	771,940	808,080
Registered	37,244	39,354	75,755	79,786
	1,011,697	1,099,306	847,695	887,866
 <i>Ocean Mail</i>				
Unregistered	274,666	247,322	510,595	495,238
Registered	6,763	7,502	9,774	9,634
	281,429	254,824	520,369	504,872
 Grand Total	1,293,126	1,354,130	1,368,064	1,392,738

The number of internal postal packets circulated in 1952 and 1953 was as follows:

	1952	1953
Unregistered Letters & Postcards	775,528	978,652
Registered Letters	36,283	34,572
Official Letters	261,989	279,320
	1,073,800	1,292,544
Book Packets & Newspapers	1,543,399	1,929,129
	2,617,199	3,221,673
Total		

There was an increase in inward parcel post traffic over the year 1951, although the outward traffic showed a decline in 1953, the number of parcels handled being as follows:

	1951	1952	1953
Parcels — In	55,872	62,020	65,535
Parcels — Out	35,064	39,134	23,214
	90,936	101,154	88,749

The number of local parcels circulated was as follows:

1951	1952	1953
234	191	193

Money order and postal order business showed a steady increase:

	1951	1952	1953
	\$	\$	\$
Money Orders & Postal Orders Issued & Paid	1,120,864	1,143,272	1,321,940

Chapter 12: Press, Broadcasting, Films and Government Information Services

PRESS

Newspapers and Periodicals

Advocate	Daily except Monday
Evening Advocate	Monday
Recorder	Monday, Wednesday & Saturday
Observer	Saturday
Torch	Saturday
Beacon	Saturday
Barbados Commercial Journal	Monthly
Annual Review	

BROADCASTING

A wire broadcasting system operates in the built-up areas of St. Michael, Christ Church, St. James, and St. Peter, and plans are in hand for the extension of the network to reach the parish of St. George. The system was started in 1935 by Radio Distribution (Barbados) Limited and was taken over by Broadcast Relay Services Limited in 1951 and was reconstituted as the Barbados Rediffusion Service Limited.

The Company operates under licence from the Government and at the end of 1953 had 7,582 subscribers and a number of installations in hotels, hospitals, schools and public places.

Under the terms of the charter programmes originated by the B.B.C. are relayed for a total of 21 hours a week. The hours of broadcasting average 102 each week. Many broadcasts of local and West Indian interest are made.

There is no local wireless broadcasting service, but many events, such as the Coronation in 1953, and sporting fixtures, such as race meetings and cricket tours, are transmitted by arrangement between Barbados Rediffusion Service Limited and Messrs. Cable and Wireless (West Indies) Limited on frequencies sanctioned by Government.

FILMS

During 1952 the Film Unit produced a two-reel film "Better Living" for the Social Welfare Department. This film has been in constant demand since its release in 1953. A colour film of the visit of Her Royal Highness the Princess Royal to Barbados was released during Coronation week. Other productions of the local film unit included a newsreel "Barbados Welcomes New Governor" and "Coronation Festivities" in colour. Material for a filmstrip on hurricane damage in the West Indies was compiled from pictures obtained in Jamaica and Antigua.

During 1953 the Unit commenced production of the film "Protection and Welfare of the Worker" for the Labour Department.

The activities of the Mobile Cinema Unit were somewhat restricted on account of the necessity for major repairs to the equipment and van. The unit gave 168 programmes to a total audience of 53,000 people during 1952-53. The programmes were supplemented by talks on a variety of topics including road safety, tuberculosis, maternity and child welfare and home economics.

The unit rendered valuable assistance in the launching of the aided self-help housing project at Clinkett's, St. Lucy.

References to the use of filmstrips in schools and filmshows held by the British Council are on pages 43-4.

INFORMATION SERVICES

There is no separate Information Department but public relations and press liaison work are undertaken by the Colonial Secretary in addition to his other duties.

Press conferences are held regularly by the Colonial Secretary on matters affecting the public interest.

Material received from the Central Office of Information is distributed as widely as possible, particularly to schools.

Chapter 13: The Barbados Regiment

At the conclusion of the South African War, the Imperial Government decided to withdraw the regular troops stationed in Barbados. The Barbados Government therefore passed an Act to establish the Barbados Volunteer Force. This came into being on 2nd July, 1902. The then Governor, Sir Frederick Hodgson, was its first Commanding Officer. The Inspector of Police was made *ex officio* Adjutant.

At this time the Force consisted of an infantry company of 50 members, a detachment of artillery and another of cyclists.

The first public parade in which the Barbados Volunteer Force took part was at the King's Birthday Parade in 1904, when they paraded with a Battalion of the Worcestershire Regiment.

In 1907 a detachment of the Barbados Volunteer Force was sent to St. Lucia to assist in quelling riots and in 1911 a contingent was sent to represent Barbados at King George V's Coronation.

During the 1914-18 War the Force carried out certain defence duties within Barbados, many of its members obtaining leave to join active service units.

After the first World War, regular serving officers were appointed to carry out the duties of Staff Officer of the Local Forces and Adjutant

to the Barbados Volunteer Force. For a short period in 1937 the Volunteers were embodied. They assisted the Police Force in restoring law and order after a civil disturbance.

At the outbreak of the 1939-45 War, the Force was again embodied, and additional United Kingdom officers were later attached to assist in training.

In October, 1942, the War Office decided to absorb the Force into the Caribbean Regiment, the local Battalion being known as the Barbados Battalion and subsequently as the Islands Battalion.

Before demobilisation of the Battalion in 1947, the Governor, Sir Hilary Blood, appointed a committee to make recommendations on the reconstitution of the Barbados Volunteer Force. The recommendations were approved and the War Office handed over arms, ammunition, clothing, equipment, etc., to equip Headquarters, a Headquarters Company and two rifle companies.

Soon after recruiting started application was made to the local Government to have the name of the Force changed to the Barbados Regiment. The War Office raised no objection to this and the necessary Bill was passed through the Legislature on 25th November, 1948.

In response to an application made in August, 1948, the Barbados Regiment was affiliated to the Royal Leicestershire Regiment; this Regiment has old associations with the Island of Barbados.

In May, 1949, a staff officer and a regimental sergeant major (instructor) were again seconded from the Regular Army to supervise the organisation and training of the Regiment. In addition there is a full-time permanent staff consisting of one captain quartermaster, one regimental sergeant major, seven sergeants and seven other ranks, who form a specialised nucleus on which the Regiment can be embodied.

The strength of the Regiment at 31st December, 1953 was 18 officers and 342 other ranks.

In February, 1953, the Regiment was given the honour and privilege of carrying the Queen's Colour together with a Regimental Colour. These Colours were presented, at an impressive ceremony, by Her Royal Highness the Princess Royal.

The Regiment was represented at the Coronation of Her Majesty the Queen. One captain, one warrant officer and two sergeants were sent to England to join the Colonial Contingent which marched in the Coronation Procession. At this time the Regiment was in camp at St. Ann's Fort, and took part in the local ceremonies connected with the Coronation.

The Regiment is well known and popular within the Colony. There is almost always a long waiting list of applicants to join the next recruits' squad. These squads are run for approximately six months at a time, with two training parades of one hour each per week. It is not until the recruit has successfully passed his course and a medical examination, that he is attested and taken on the strength of the Regiment.

All volunteers parade one evening per week throughout the year, with the exception of the month of December. For each parade attend-

ed all non-commissioned ranks are allowed to receive 60 cents (2s. 6d) to meet out of pocket expenses.

Certain regimental officers who are school masters are seconded to the Barbados Cadet Corps. The Cadet Corps has three companies, one each at Harrison College and Lodge and Combermere Schools.

There is a very strong affiliation between the Regiment and the Cadet Corps. Quite a number of the cadets are also members of the Regiment.

Training Camps are held annually for both the Regiment and Cadets. These camps last for about 10 days, and are either under canvas in the country districts or at St. Ann's Fort.

PART III

Chapter 1: Geography and Climate

BARBADOS, the most easterly of the West Indian islands, is situated between latitudes $13^{\circ} 2'$ and $13^{\circ} 20'$ North and longitudes $59^{\circ} 25'$ and $59^{\circ} 39'$ West. The Island is triangular in shape and is 21 miles long by 14 miles across the widest part; its area is approximately 166 square miles. It is approximately the size of the Isle of Wight.

Natural and climatic conditions justify the claim of Barbados to be the healthiest of all West Indian islands. There is little variation in temperature, the range being generally from 69° to 90° F. and in the cool months—December to May—as low occasionally as 64° . The Island during this time gets the full benefit of the cool north-east trade winds.

The geological structure of Barbados is extremely simple. It consists of a basement of much folded sandstones and shales (the Scotland series) covered unconformably by the soft, chalklike rocks of the Oceanic series. Except in the Scotland District, both of these geological series are covered unconformably with a layer of coral limestone which varies in thickness from a thin veneer to 240—260 feet. In May, 1812, Mount Soufrière on the island of St. Vincent, which is 95 miles to the west of Barbados, erupted, and thousands of tons of dust were deposited on the Colomy. The dust is said to have improved the soil of the fields.

The Island lies almost out of the track of hurricanes, although these have swept over it at distant intervals, notably in 1780, 1831, and 1898, and done considerable damage. Earth tremors have been occasionally felt, but severe earthquake shocks have not occurred.

In appearance Barbados is peculiarly English. It lacks entirely the restless luxuriance of other tropical islands. Its general aspect is green and undulating, and because the colour of the sugar cane is the same as that of grass, for many months of the year the Barbados landscape recalls the downs of Sussex or the weald of Kent. The plantation houses, set in copses of dark-foliaged trees, increase the similarity.

The Island has many attractions for tourists—yachting, golf, cricket, tennis and some of the finest sea-bathing in the world. The hotels are good, and most of the clubs are open to visitors. The Island produces fine thoroughbred horses which compete successfully in the race meetings of other islands. The Barbados Turf Club holds four meetings a year. Polo is played, and there are pleasant rides over the countryside, particularly along the “intervals” as the grassy bridle paths through the fields are called.

Chapter 2: History

As far as is known the original inhabitants of Barbados were the Arawak Indians who migrated from the mainland of South America. When they arrived is not known, but relics of their occupation down to the latter years of the sixteenth century have been discovered in various parts of the Island. By the time the English settlers came they had disappeared, partly through Carib raids from the neighbouring islands, and partly through the Spaniards who deported them to work in the mines of Hispaniola.

In spite of the belief to the contrary, there is no satisfactory evidence that the *Olive Branch* under Captain Catlin ever touched at Barbados when driven off its course from England to the River Wiapoco settlement in 1605. The first Englishman to visit Barbados may have been Captain Simon Gordon, who claimed that he had landed some time before the settlement of 1627 and had found the Island uninhabited. He may however have been on a ship under the command of Sir Thomas Warner that visited some time between 1620 and 1624, when the Island was suffering from such a severe drought that Sir Thomas preferred settlement of his colonists at St. Kitts. In 1624, or early 1625, a ship belonging to Sir William Courteen and under the command of Captain John Powell touched at Barbados when en route from Pernambuco to England; some men were landed who erected a cross and on a tree nearby inscribed "James K of E and of this Island". On receiving Powell's information about Barbados Sir William Courteen fitted out an expedition to the Island under the command of his informant; but Powell, who carried letters of Marque, captured a Spanish or Portuguese prize and returned with it to Cowes in 1626. Courteen then fitted out a second expedition and in February, 1627, the *William and John* under the command of Captain Henry Powell—Captain John Powell's younger brother—landed 80 settlers. During 1627 and 1628 the colony grew rapidly and by the end of 1628 it was claimed that Courteen had planted 1,850 settlers.

When in 1627 Charles I issued Letters Patent to Lord Carlisle granting him proprietary rights over all the "Caribbee Islands," Barbados was apparently included. Lord Carlisle bought off an earlier option granted to Lord Marlborough by settling on him and his heirs an annuity of £300. Courteen thereupon induced yet another nobleman, the Earl of Montgomery and future Earl of Pembroke, to lay claim to Barbados, and Charles I in February, 1628, issued fresh Letters Patent this time granting Barbados and three other islands to Lord Montgomery. However, Lord Carlisle rapidly reasserted his claims which were substantiated by a further grant in April, 1628, and confirmed by an enquiry carried out by the Lord Keeper in 1629. He also took practical steps to secure his possession of the Island by sending out a party of new settlers who founded St. Michael's town, on the site of Bridgetown, the present capital. The new settlers were not favourably received

by their predecessors and for some time there was a state of internal dissension, first one and then the other gaining control.

In 1636 Lord Carlisle died, leaving his rights in Barbados and the Caribbee Islands in trust for the payment of his debts with remainder to his son, who in 1647 leased his rights to Lord Willoughby of Parham for 21 years. During the Civil War Barbados attempted to maintain a position of neutrality, but it gradually, not without some upheavals, inclined to the Royalist cause and in 1650 Lord Willoughby assumed the government of Barbados in the name of the King. Parliament reacted by sending out an expedition to subdue the Island which in January, 1652, capitulated on terms providing for government by a Governor appointed by the Commonwealth.

At the Restoration the various claims based or secured on the Carlisle Patent were revived, but a return to the proprietary system was strongly opposed by the planters whose titles to land were in many cases defective and by the London merchants. After lengthy negotiations a settlement was arrived at in 1663, based on the surrender of the Carlisle Patent to the Crown and the compensation of the various claims out of a fixed revenue to be provided by the Colony in return for the confirmation of local land titles. The financial terms of the settlement were laid down by an Order in Council allocating the future revenue of the Caribbee Islands, that is to say, Barbados and the Leeward Islands, to the satisfaction of the claims, after which it was to revert to the Crown. The revenue was provided by a $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent duty on exports which was imposed by Acts passed by the Barbados Legislature in 1663, and by that of the Leeward Islands in 1664. This duty continued in force and was a constant source of grievance to the Colonies, until 1838 when it was abolished by an Act of the Imperial Parliament.

Barbados has never fallen into foreign hands since its first settlement, but it has had some narrow escapes. In 1665 the Dutch Admiral, de Ruyter, attempted to capture it with a fleet of 12 ships of the line, two fire ships and 2,500 men. When the news of his approach reached Barbados the British ships were brought in close under the batteries. The Dutch fleet attempted to follow them, but the fire from the English vessels and batteries was so destructive that the flagship was disabled and the expedition was forced to withdraw.

During the eighteenth century when the West Indies were involved in the French and American wars, as Barbados was liable to be attacked, the Island was ringed with forts, the crumbling stones and rusting guns of which still remain. In 1782 the threat of attack hung over the Island until Rodney's victory in the "Battle of the Saints" on 12th April. Again in 1805 the forts were manned when it was learned that the French and Spanish fleets had been sighted off St. Lucia, but the arrival of Nelson on board the *Victory* accompanied by his first fleet restored tranquillity. Nelson's visit to the Island and the gratitude of the inhabitants for their delivery were commemorated by the erection in 1813 of a bronze statue in Trafalgar Square, overlooking the Bridgetown careenage.

The first settlers had raised tobacco and cotton. Sugarcane was

introduced about 1640 probably from Brazil, and seems rapidly to have established itself as the principal crop, though it was not till about 1652 that with Dutch assistance the manufacture of sugar was brought to perfection. The first mills were worked by cattle, but in 1655 the windmill was introduced. In 1841 the first steam engines were at work and thereafter the windmills declined. The last of them ceased work in 1946.

During the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries Barbados was an island of plenty and prosperity. Many English families settled there, as place names and memorials bear witness, for instance, Codrington College, Bulkeley and Lascelles plantations, Drax Hall, Edgumbe and Frère Pilgrim estates. The Council Chamber possesses portraits of the first, second and third Earls of Harewood. The planters were rich and displayed their wealth, as was customary at the time, by erecting ostentatious monuments by the finest British sculptors of the day. The interior of a Barbados parish church has, therefore, a particularly English look. Many of the memorials are the work of sculptors of Liverpool and Bristol from which so many of the settlers had come, but there are also examples of the work of Flaxman and Bacon; and the little church of St. George can boast of a memorial by Nollekens on its southern wall, one by Westmacott on its northern wall, and an alter-piece by Benjamin West. Other churches have their interest. The graveyard of St. John's Church contains a memorial to Ferdinando Paleologus "descended from the Imperial line of the last Christian Emperors of Greece".

Ever since the Island was first colonised, the connection between Barbados and Northern America has been very close. Many families in the Carolinas, and some even as far north as New England, reached America via Barbados.

The bond between Barbados and Britain has been maintained by a number of well-known names, down to our day. Warren Hastings' father, Penniston, was at one time Rector of Christ Church, though Warren himself was born in England. Leigh Hunt was of Barbadian parentage, his grandfather having been Rector of St. Michael, and his father a clergyman who flitted between Bridgetown and Philadelphia before settling down as a fashionable preacher in London. Thomas Chenerly, Lord Almoner's Professor of Arabic at Oxford, reviser of the Old Testament, and Editor of the *The Times* from 1877 to 1884, was born in Barbados in 1826. In our own day, Sir Frank Newsam, Permanent Under-Secretary of State at the Home Office, is a Barbadian; and the Island takes pride in the fact that John Goddard captained the West Indies cricket team in two of the four test matches against the M.C.C. in the West Indies in 1947-48, and the teams which visited India in 1948-49, England in 1950 and Australia and New Zealand in 1951-52.

During the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries a prosperous Sephardic Jewish community grew up in Barbados. It gradually declined through emigration and assimilation, until in the early years of this century the community disappeared. Their beautifully furnished synagogue was alienated—it is now the headquarters of the Barbados

Turf Club and a Political Association—and the graveyard desecrated, many of its memorials being broken. Of recent years a new Ashkenazi community of some sixteen families from Europe has grown up.

In 1751 George Washington, then a lad of nineteen, visited Barbados as the companion of his dying brother, Lawrence, who came to Barbados in the hope of recovering his health. Washington, as his diary records, was much taken with the Island. He enjoyed his rides in the cool of the day, and he met the best society in the Island, becoming a member of the Beefsteak and Tripe Club. He is known to have visited Christ Church and to have dined at Graeme Hall nearby. On leaving the Island he recorded in his diary: "Hospitality and genteel behaviour is shown to every Gentleman stranger by the gentleman inhabitants."

The devastating hurricane of 1831 put an end to these halcyon days, and the West Indies as a whole were already entering a trough of depression.

Emancipation of the slaves in 1834 caused a great change in the economy of the Island, despite the compensation of £1½ million which the planters received from the British Treasury. Emancipation did not for some time greatly amend the status of the slaves. The white minority, the old "plantocracy" still dominated the Island politically, socially and commercially. In 1876 matters came to a head in the so-called Confederation Riots.

A new Governor, John Pope Hennessy, was appointed with instructions to secure from the Legislature consent to certain measures of administrative unification in the Windward group of which Barbados was the headquarters. One purpose of these proposals, prematurely labelled as "Confederation", was to by-pass the consistent obstructiveness of a Legislature elected by 1,300 voters out of a population of over 160,000. Barbadian particularism, fearful for the independence of its Legislature, and even more of its treasury, was up in arms at once. A "Defence Association" was formed among the upper and middle classes to mobilise opposition to the plans of the Colonial Office, and this led to a counter-agitation among the labourers, who supposed that Confederation would benefit them. Hennessy, whose zeal and energy were not supported by good political judgment, had given some encouragement to this belief: and in April, 1876, the astonishing spectacle was seen of widespread rioting by Negroes who understood that in robbing provision fields, sacking plantation houses, and destroying livestock, they were carrying out the wishes of the representative of the Queen. Hennessy showed promptness, firmness and temperance in suppressing the disturbances, and the casualties were not large—eight killed and thirty-odd injured, figures very similar to those in the 1937 disturbances which preceded the appointment of the Moyne Commission. In neither case was any white person killed.

After Hennessy had been diplomatically transferred to another Government, the extreme political tension in the Island was eased. The Barbadian political system appeared to have emerged from the crisis intact; but, after an attempt by the Government to secure official representation in the House of Assembly had failed, a compromise

was reached in the Executive Committee Act of 1881. Under this Act an Executive Committee was set up composed of the Executive Council, four members of the Assembly and one of the Legislative Council, for the discussion and transaction of financial business and the consideration of legislative measures at large.

In the absence of further acute conflict between the two branches of the Government the plan worked fairly well, until, in quite recent times, an enlarged franchise and a more widely diffused political consciousness exposed its weaknesses. During the late war the failure of the Executive Committee to keep the confidence of the House of Assembly produced a virtual legislative deadlock. The experiment inaugurated in 1946 by which the Governor asked the person best able to command a majority in the House of Assembly to suggest which members of the House should sit in the Executive Committee, was an attempt to resolve this. The introduction of a Ministerial system in February, 1954, carries the experiment a stage further and has, with the minimum of legal amendments to the constitution, conferred a substantial additional measure of responsible government.

The eighties were a period of depression in world trade. From 1885 onwards, mainly owing to competition from bounty-fed sugar, Barbados was in the grip of an agricultural crisis. In 1894 the price of sugar fell to 9s. a hundredweight, and the next year the Bourbon cane, for so long the planters' standby, succumbed to the drought and moth borer. In such circumstances men were less inclined to favour constitutional than economic and social reform. Two measures of constitutional interest—a private member's Bill to retrench by amalgamating the offices of Governor and Colonial Secretary, and a similar Bill to exclude the Auditor-General from the House of Assembly and the Executive Committee—caused a little stir, but did not reach the Statute Book.

In 1896 a Royal Commission was appointed to investigate conditions in the West Indies. It had many important results although some of these were long delayed. An Imperial Department of Agriculture was set up with headquarters in Barbados in 1898; John R. Bovell, of the local Department of Agriculture, was stimulated in his search for new varieties of cane. The disappearance of the Bourbon cane might have proved a permanent disaster, not only for Barbados, but for the whole West Indies, had it not been for Bovell's demonstrating that cane "arrows" or flowers produce fertile seed, and that by cross-breeding many varieties of improved cane could be propagated from seed. The British West Indies Cane Breeding Station is now established in Barbados and is a memorial to Bovell's genius. In 1902 the sugar bounties were abolished and the Imperial Government made a gift of £250,000 to the West Indies, of which £80,000 fell to Barbados. This amount was at first administered by Commissioners as a loan fund for the benefit of sugar estates, and became in 1907, the nucleus of the capital of the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank.

Meanwhile, the Court of Chancery was working at full pressure. Very few estates were abandoned or cut up and sold in lots, but on all the number of workers and the level of wages were necessarily reduced.

With the population at 182,000 or 1,000 to the square mile, and a one-crop economy, this meant not only increased unemployment, but destitution. On the top of this came the hurricane of 1898, not causing much loss of life it is true, but adding greatly to the prevailing distress, especially among the labouring classes. The price of sugar fell below a dollar a hundredweight. In 1902 there was an epidemic of smallpox. In 1905-6 the Imperial troops were withdrawn, which meant an annual loss of nearly £80,000.

Under this economic pressure the absentee proprietors who, at the time of the visit of the Royal Commission owned one-third of the acreage of the Island, dropped out of the race. They were succeeded by a set of new men who brought a new spirit and new methods of rehabilitation for the sugar industry. The need for economy and efficiency led to the creation of a number of factories controlling groups of estates. Moreover, after 1900 there was a great wave of emigration from among the lower-middle and the labouring classes to the United States and the Panama Canal works. Between 1906 and 1910 the remittances of these emigrants averaged well over £65,000. Several estates were cut up in lots and sold to the returned emigrants or their relatives. By 1913 there were 13,000 peasants who owned lots of five acres and under.

In 1913 the exodus to Panama ceased, but during the 1914-18 war and for some time after there was a boom in sugar and the prosperity it brought continued until about 1930, when economic distress again made itself felt. In 1937 Barbados had its share of those disturbances which occurred throughout the West Indies. In that year a Royal Commission was sent to the West Indies, and from its labours, and the reforms produced, dates yet another period in the social and political development of the Colony.

Chapter 3: Administration

Barbados possesses representative institutions and a large measure of responsible Government. The Crown has only a veto on legislation, but the Secretary of State retains his power of appointment and control of Public Officers.

The legislature consists of the Governor, the Legislative Council, consisting of a maximum of 15 members appointed by Her Majesty, and the House of Assembly, consisting of 24 members (two for each parish and two for the city of Bridgetown) elected for a period of five years. The House of Assembly was constituted in 1639 and is the oldest colonial legislative body after the Bermuda House of Assembly. In 1944 the income qualification for voters was reduced from £50 to £20 per year, and the franchise was given to females, who also became eligible for election as members. In 1950 the income qualification was abolished and adult suffrage introduced.

The executive part of the Government is vested in the Governor and the Executive Council and, in respect of certain matters, an Executive Committee. In actual practice, apart from advising the Governor with regard to the exercise of the Royal prerogative of mercy, nearly all the Executive Council's functions are discharged by the Executive Committee. The Executive Council consists of the Colonial Secretary and the Attorney-General *ex officio*, and of such other persons as Her Majesty may appoint. The Executive Committee, which is created by local statute, consists of the Executive Council *ex officio* and of one member of the Legislative Council and four members of the House of Assembly appointed by the Governor. The Executive Committee introduces all money votes, prepares the estimates and initiates all Government measures; it is also responsible for the conduct of public works, and the control and management of Government property.

The names of members of the Executive Council, Executive Committee, Legislative Council and House of Assembly are given in the Appendix to this chapter.

Until 1946 the Attorney-General, who is a full-time Government officer, was expected to stand for election for the House of Assembly and to take charge of Government business in the House of Assembly. In his speech when proroguing the Legislature at the end of 1946 the Governor stated that in future the Officer administering the Government would at the beginning of each session send for the member of the House who in his opinion was best able to command a majority in the House and would invite him to submit the names of four members of the House of Assembly for appointment to Executive Committee. At the same time the permission granted to the Attorney-General to seek election was withdrawn and the responsibility for the conduct of public business in the House of Assembly placed in the hands of those members of the Executive Committee appointed from the House.

Under the Ministerial system introduced on 1st February, 1954, five Ministers become responsible for most departments of Government. The Governor appoints as Premier the person who appears best able to command a majority in the House of Assembly, and appoints four other Ministers on his recommendation. The Premier becomes a member of Executive Council, while he holds office, and the other Ministers replace the four "House Members" of Executive Committee.

The Governor has the right to address the Legislature at any time, but this right is usually exercised only at the opening or close of the session. On other occasions the Governor communicates with either Chamber by Message which is presented to the Chamber by a member of the Executive Committee. Communications from either Chamber to the Governor take the form of an Address which must be approved by a majority vote. The House of Assembly has no standing committee of finance and any application by the Governor-in-Executive Committee to approve expenditure, which is not authorised by an Act or in the annual Estimates of the Colony, must be approved by resolution of the Legislature before expenditure can be incurred.

The Island is administered as one unit except in respect of local

government matters, which are in the hands of the Vestries and Parochial Boards of the eleven parishes. The Vestries are elected annually, and each Vestry appoints Commissioners of Highways, Commissioners of Health and Poor Law Guardians for the parish. The two last-named bodies rely for revenue upon grants from the Vestry, but the Commissioners of Highways, who are responsible for the up-keep of all public highways in the parish which are not maintained by the Central Government, collect all vehicle and highway taxes and, in addition, receive grants-in-aid from the Central Government. The Vestries derive their revenue mainly from taxes on ownership and occupancy of land and houses and trade tax ; the rates for these are fixed annually so as to bring in sufficient revenue to meet the estimated expenditure for the year. The Vestries undertake the repair and maintenance of churches and church buildings and the rector of each parish is chairman of the Vestry *ex officio*.

However, a radical re-organisation of the whole system of local government is provided for in the Local Government Act which passed the Legislature in mid-1954. This Act, which is not yet in operation, includes provision for the replacement of the eleven Vestries by modern municipal district councils elected by adult suffrage.

APPENDIX

The following list of members of the Executive Council, Executive Committee, Legislative Council and House of Assembly is given as at 1st February, 1954, when the Ministerial system was introduced.

The Executive Council.

The Governor
The Chief Secretary
The Attorney-General
Sir S. J. Saint, C.M.G., O.B.E.
Sir J. D. Chandler
G. H. Adams, C.M.G., Q.C. (Premier)
J. C. King, Clerk.

The Executive Committee.

The Executive Council
H. A. Cuke, C.B.E.
H. G. H. Cummins (Minister for Social Services)
M. E. Cox (Minister for Communications, Works and Housing)
R. G. Mapp (Minister for Trade, Industry and Labour)
C. E. Talma (Minister for Agriculture, Lands and Fisheries)
J. C. King, Clerk.

The Legislative Council.

Sir J. D. Chandler (President)
H. A. Cuke, C.B.E.
H. G. Massiah
G. D. L. Pile, O.B.E.
C. H. St. John
F. C. Hutson
V. C. Gale
Mrs. M. Hanschell, M.B.E.
J. A. Mahon
R. N. Turner (Chief Secretary)
A. S. Cato
K. R. Hunte
C. Wylie, Q.C., E.D. (Attorney-General)
E. S. Robinson
A. A. Hinds, M.B.E., Clerk.

THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

<i>Constituency</i>	<i>Member</i>
Bridgetown.	E. D. Mottley A. E. S. Lewis (Deputy Speaker)
St. Michael.	M. E. Cox T. O. Bryan
Christ Church	C. E. Talma F. C. Goddard
St. George	E. W. Barrow F. E. Miller
St. Philip	W. A. Crawford J. C. Mottley
St. Joseph	G. H. Adams, C.M.G., Q.C. L. E. Smith
St. John	O. T. Alder V. B. Vaughan
St. James	E. St. A. Holder E. K. Walcott, Q.C.
St. Thomas.	R. G. Mapp H. G. H. Cummins
St. Andrew	E. E. Bourne J. A. Haynes
St. Peter	K. N. R. Husbands (Speaker) F. L. Walcott, O.B.E.
St. Lucy	J. E. T. Brancker L. A. Williams

D. L. Sarjeant, Clerk.
H. L. Thomas, Deputy Clerk

Chapter 4: Weights and Measures

The standard of weights and superficial measure is the same as in the United Kingdom, but the local standard measure of capacity is 231 cubic inches to the gallon (known as the wine gallon).

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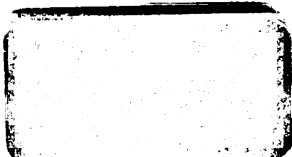
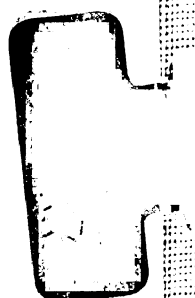
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